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ONE PENNY.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

The recent important speech of President Johnson has taken many of his detractors by surprise. He has shown himself to be a man equal to the emergency of the critical position in which he is placed, and the troublous times in which he serves. We believe that a portrait of the American President, and a short sketch of his career, will not at the present time be unacceptable to our readers. We therefore have much pleasure in presenting both.

Mr. Andrew Johnson was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, Dec. 29, 1808. At the age of four years he lost his father, who died from the effect of exertions to save a friend from drowning. He was apprenticed to a tailor in his native city at the early age of ten, with whom he served seven years. His mother was unable to afford him any educational advantages, and he never attended school a day in his life. While learning his trade, however, he made an effort to educate himself. His anxiety to be able to read was particularly excited by an incident which is worthy of mention. A gentleman of Raleigh was in the habit of going into the tailor's shop and reading while the apprentice and journey-men were at work. He was an excellent reader, and his favourite book was a volume of speeches, principally of British statesmen. Johnson became interested, and his first ambition was to equal him as a reader and become familiar with those speeches. Accordingly, he took up the alphabet without an instructor; but, by applying to the journey-men with whom he worked, he obtained a little assistance.

Having acquired a knowledge of the letters, he applied for a loan of the book which he had so often heard read. The owner made him a present of it, and gave him some instruction on the use of letters in the formation of words. Thus, his first exercises in spelling were in that book. By perseverance he soon learned to

read; and the hours which he devoted to education were at night, after he had finished his daily labour on the shop-board.

Having completed his apprenticeship in the autumn of 1824, he went to Laurens Courthouse, South Carolina, where he worked as a journeyman for nearly two years. While there he became engaged to be married, but the match was broken off by the violent opposition of the girl's mother and friends, the ground of the objection being Mr. Johnson's youth and the want of pecuniary means.

In May, 1826, he again returned to Raleigh, where he procured work as a journeyman, and remained there until September, when he set out to seek his fortune in the West, taking with him his mother, who was entirely dependent on him for support. He stopped at Greenville, Tennessee, and commenced work as a journeyman. He remained there about twelve months, married, and soon afterwards went still further westward; but, failing to find a suitable place to settle, he returned to Greenville, and commenced business.

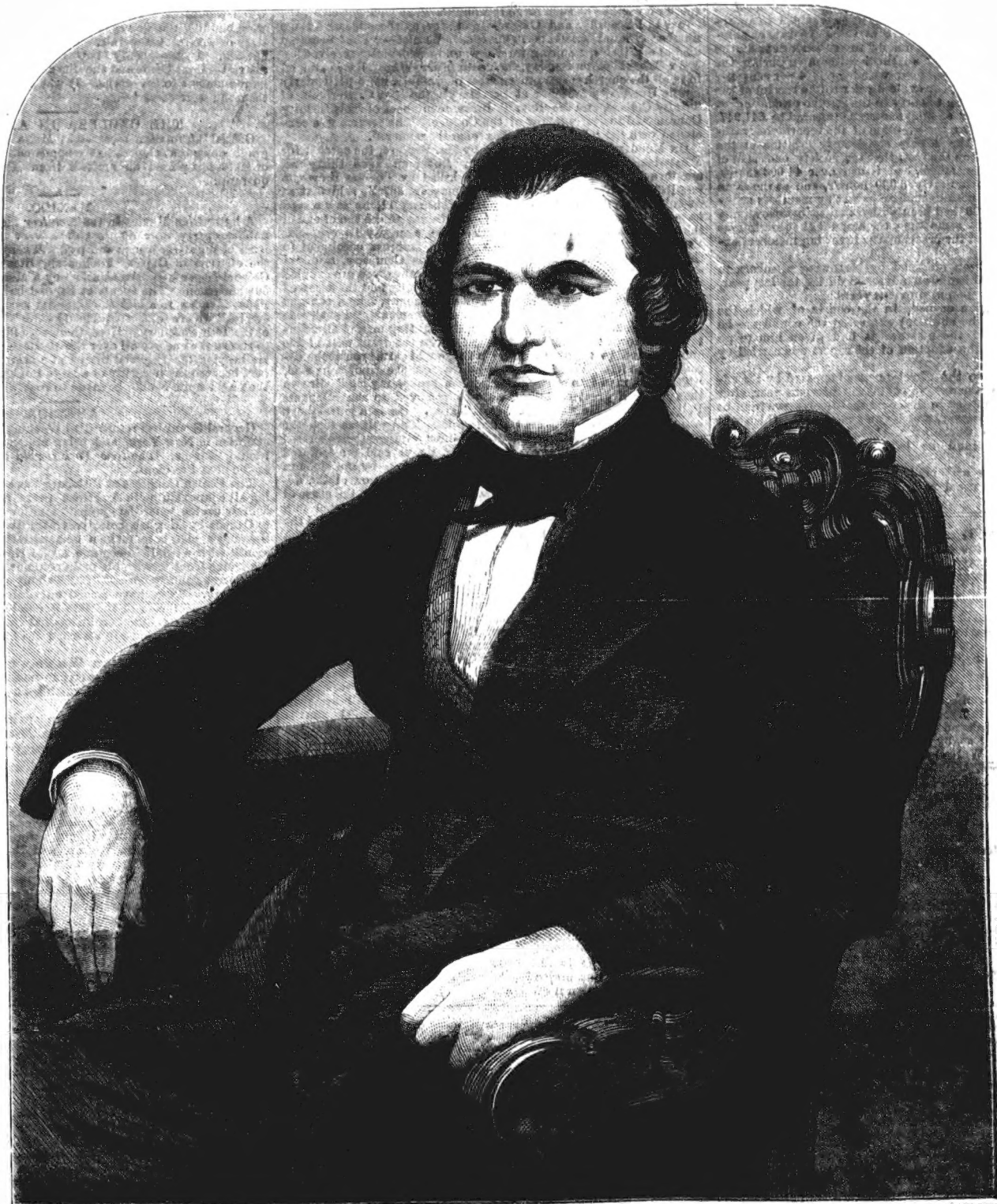
Up to this time Mr. Johnson's education was limited to reading, as he had never had an opportunity of learning to write or cipher; but, under the instructions of his wife, he learned these and other accomplishments. The only time, however, he could devote to them was in the dead of the night.

The first office which he ever held was that of alderman of the village, to which he was elected in 1828. He was re-elected to this same position in 1829, and again in 1830. In that year he was chosen mayor, which position he held three years.

In 1835, he was elected to the legislature in the session of that year he took decided ground against a scheme of internal improvements, contending that they would not only prove a failure, but entail upon the State a burdensome debt. The measure was popular, however, and at the next election (1837) he was defeated. He became a candidate again in 1839.

By this time many of the evils he had predicted were fully demonstrated, and he was elected by a large majority. In 1840 he served as presidential elector for the State at large on the Democratic ticket. He canvassed a large portion of the State, meeting upon this tour several of the leading Whig orators. In 1841 he was elected to the State Senate. In 1842 he was elected to Congress, where, by successive elections, he served until 1855.

During this period of service he was conspicuous and active in advocating the



MR. ANDREW JOHNSON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Notes of the Week.

Foreign News.

Bill for refunding the fine imposed on General Jackson at New Orleans in 1815, the annexation of Texas, the tariff of 1846, the war measures of Mr. Polk's Administration, and a Homestead Bill. In 1853 he was elected governor of Tennessee after an exciting canvass. He was re-elected in 1855, after another active contest. At the expiration of his second period as governor, in 1857, he was elected United States Senator for a full term, ending March 3, 1863. At the next presidential election he was made Vice-President, and took the oath on the 4th of March; and on the assassination of President Lincoln he succeeded to the office of that ill-fated man—a responsibility, we may truly say, few men would have dared to have taken on that memorable occasion, or if they had, it is highly questionable whether they would have succeeded so well as President Johnson has done.

The editor of the *Louisville Journal*, giving an account of a recent interview with President Johnson, says:—"We expected to find him weary, worn and haggard. Never were we more mistaken. He was in the finest and most vigorous health, his face as fresh as in earlier manhood, ere the 'storms of State' beat upon him, and as calm and serene and cheerful as if only the responsibilities of a private citizen rested upon him. It would have been evident to any one feeling him as we saw him, that he is a firm, resolute, self-poised man, confident, but not vainly or arrogantly confident, in his own strength, and as immovable as a rock or mountain in his own deep and fixed purposes. His will is like his frame, and that is of iron."

THE TEMPERANCE PERMANENT LAND AND BUILDING SOCIETY.

The twelfth annual meeting of members was held the other evening in the large room at the London Coffee-house, Mr. William Tweedie in the chair. Over 500 members were present. Mr. Henry J. Phillips, the secretary, read the annual report, from which it appeared the gross receipts for the year were nearly £100,000 in excess of those of the preceding one, having amounted to more than £257,000. This increased the total receipts of the society to £298,000.

The subscriptions and repayments of advances received amounted to nearly £158,000, being about £58,000 in excess of the previous year.

The sums received on deposit at 5 per cent. interest amounted to £57,300, being about 22,000 in excess of the preceding year.

The cash advanced upon houses during the year was nearly double that of the previous year, and amounted to £178,950. The amount remaining out on mortgage of houses and land at the close of the year was £345,600. The total sum advanced on houses since the commencement of the society had exceeded £550,000.

After providing for expenses of management, and writing off all losses on property sold, the directors had been enabled to appropriate profit to investing shareholders at the same rate as heretofore—viz., 7½ per cent. per annum on the subscriptions at the credit of the shares in force, and on those withdrawn during the year (in addition to the profit paid on withdrawal) 4 per cent. per annum for the portion of the year expired prior to the receipt of the notice of withdrawal, and also to carry to the reserve or contingent account a sum by which that amount had been increased to £41,947.

The CHAIRMAN in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the members upon the highly satisfactory position of the society, and commented upon the facts that the society consisted of between 7,000 and 8,000 members, had issued over 44,000 shares, had advanced money upon nearly 3,000 houses, and at the same time the society had been used to such an extent by members as investors, that over £100,000 had been withdrawn in comparatively small sums; while, at the same time, the amount of subscriptions remaining in the society at the credit of the investing members exceeded £118,000.

Advantages had also been obtained by borrowing members, to whom more than £178,000 had been advanced during the last year, at a lower rate of interest than in previous years.

An interesting discussion ensued, in the course of which the Rev. Dr. Burns (one of the auditors) expressed the confidence he had in the society, and the pleasure it had given him to go through the accounts. The adoption of the report was carried by acclamation.

The usual allowance to the directors was increased by the addition of £100 to the amount voted in the previous year, after which a motion was submitted to the effect that the reserve fund be not increased; it was, however, met by an amendment, which was carried, with only two dissentients, that the question of the amount of the reserve fund be left to the judgment of the directors.

The retiring directors and auditors were re-elected, and the meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding.

SEBASTOPOL.—The *St. Petersburg Gazette* gives an account of the annual banquet of the defenders of Sebastopol, which took place on the 26th of February. General Todleben, who was present, gave an interesting account of the impressions produced on his mind by a recent visit to the scene of his heroic defence. He visited the cemeteries of the Russians and of the allies, and said that both were maintained in a becoming condition.

FORMAL EXCOMMUNICATION OF DR. COLEMAN.—The last mail from Natal brings news of the formal excommunication of Dr. Coleman, which took place on Sunday, the 5th of January, at the Cathedral of Maritzburg, at the early service, when the dean read out the sentence as follows:—"In the name of Lord Jesus Christ—We, Robert, by divine permission, metropolitan of the church in the province of Capetown, in accordance with the decision of the bishops of the province, in synod assembled, do hereby, it being our office and our grief to do so, by the authority of Christ committed unto us, pass upon John William Coleman, D.D. the sentence of the greater excommunication, thereby separating him from the communion of the Church of Christ so long as he shall obstinately and impudently persist in his heresy, and claim to exercise the office of a bishop within the province of Capetown. And we do hereby make known to the faithful in Christ that, being thus excluded from all communion with the Church, he is, according to our Lord's command, and in conformity with the provisions of the xxxiii. of the articles of religion, 'to be taken of the whole multitude of the faithful, as a heathen man and publican.'—(Matt. xviii, 17, 18.) Given under our hand and seal, the 15th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1865.—B. CAPETOWN."

PARASITARIA.—CLARK'S FAMILY OINTMENT.—This invaluable preparation, the wonderful properties of which have now for some time been well appreciated by a discerning public, is proved in a thousand instances to have relieved the diseases and troubles of infancy and childhood. Chagles, hives, boils, sores, and skin eruptions of every description, acid head, ringworm, chilblains, cuts and bruises, eczema, and wheezing at the chest, have all in their turn yielded to its judicious and persistent application. Nor is it less efficacious in removing those disgusting ailments which weary and dispirit persons of mature years, whilst its healing, soothing, and palliative qualities recommend it beyond all others as the great panacea for those obstinate and irritating maladies in which the attendant on an advanced period of life. Numerous well authenticated instances can be adduced of rapid cures, and permanent relief in severe cases of rheumatism, sprains, white swellings, scalds, gout, boils, blisters, hives, ringworm, whitlow, elephantiasis, sore throat, diphtheria, &c. (Inflammation in the head, lumbago, chilblains, corns, defective or in-grown nails, peeling off of the skin of the hands, chapped and cracked lips, wheezing in the throat or chest, scurvy, kinks, bruises, piles, and fistula, &c. &c. No person, whatever his or her station in life, should be without this Family Ointment, indispensable alike to the traveller, the sportsman, and the householder, to whom its manifold virtues will prove a source of comfort and economy. Sold wholesale by W. & A. Clark, 74, Baker-street, London, W., and retail by chemists throughout the world, in pots at 1s. 1d. and 2s. 6d. each. Agents in every town.—Advertisement.

An inquest was held on Saturday, at Guy's Hospital, on George Lovett, aged sixty, a dyer in the employ of Messrs Lane and Co. of Bermondsey. While engaged in attending to a furnace he stood on the top of a copper full of logwood dye, which was boiling. His foot slipped, and he fell into the liquid. His screams brought immediate assistance, and he was got out dreadfully scalded. Verdict, "Accidental death."

On Saturday, Dr. Lankester held an inquest at the Great Western Hotel, Paddington, on the body of Sir John Roger Kynaston, aged sixty-eight, who met with an accident at Charing-cross, on the 28th ult. Mr. Roger Kynaston, of 43, Devonshire-street, Portland-place, cousin of deceased, identified the body. Geo. Francis White, of 18, Charles-street, St. James's-square, said: "I was called in to attend the deceased on the Thursday morning after the accident. I found him at the Charing-cross Hospital. He was perfectly conscious and collected. He said he had been knocked down by a cart. He had a wound at the back of his head. I had him removed to here (Great Western Hotel) on the Thursday. I attended him till his death. I called in Sir William Ferguson to advise with. On Monday, after the accident, erysipelas set in, and the eyes were nearly closed up. I had another consultation with Sir William Ferguson, and with Dr. Rowe, the country doctor of Sir John. We took a very unfavourable view of the case. Last Wednesday, after Sir W. Ferguson had left, I, with Dr. Rowe and Mr. Kynaston, went into Sir John's bedroom. We had not been there many minutes before he gave a sigh, and immediately expired. Death was caused by erysipelas resulting from the wound. James Akers said: Last Wednesday week I was driving an omnibus from Oxford-street to Brixton. When I arrived near Northumberland House, at about half-past four, I saw an elderly gentleman standing in the road, puzzled which way to go. I observed a cart coming from Whitehall towards St. Martin's-lane. It was coming at the rate of about five miles an hour. There were two men in the cart. The driver could see the gentleman was puzzled, and pulled up to a walking pace, and just as he got up to the gentleman pulled up altogether. The gentleman seemed frightened, and turned round and struck his breast against the horse's head and fell on his back, his head striking the stones. He lay perfectly still. Just then a van came up at a good pace, and would have gone over him if a gentleman had not seized the horse's head. I do not think the driver of the cart is to blame. It was here explained, in answer to the coroner, that the deceased was blind in the right eye. The coroner, in summing up, said he thought there ought to be some regulation to control the speed of vehicles at such large thoroughfares as Charing-cross, the circus in Piccadilly, and Oxford-street, for at these places a large number of fatal accidents happened. Verdict—"That deceased died of erysipelas, resulting from a wound accidentally received."

At Cambridge, on Sunday, the death of Dr. Whewell was alluded to in all the churches and other places of worship, more particularly by the University preacher at St. Mary's, the Rev. O. Merivale, of Trinity College, and the Rev. T. Birks, incumbent of Holy Trinity Church, and formerly fellow of the College. The service was concluded with the "Dead March," excellently rendered.

On Monday, an inquiry was held by Mr. Bedford, the coroner for Westminster, alleged to have been killed by Thomas Brown, a pugilist. Police-constable John H. Thompson, 307 Y, said that at five o'clock on the evening of Sunday, February 11, he saw a man named Thomas Brown trying to force his way to the top of one of the omnibuses that was standing outside the Archway Tavern, near Highgate-hill. The deceased, who was an omnibus coachman in the employ of the London General Omnibus Company, said, "I shall not let you get upon the omnibus, because you are drunk." Brown then ran round to the front of the omnibus, and the deceased said, "You shan't get up there. You have money, take a cab and ride home. You shan't ride here." Brown then said, "I shall ride in spite of you. I am Tompeter Brown, the fighting man of Camden-town." Brown then attempted to get up on the front seat of the omnibus, and in trying to do so he threw his arms round the deceased, who fell. While the deceased was on the ground, he said, "Take that man into custody, for he has broken my leg." Brown then swore a great deal, and he was removed to the Highgate Police-station. He was drunk at the time. He is a journeyman bootmaker, residing at New Oxford-street. The witness took the deceased to King's College Hospital. Other witnesses corroborated the evidence of the police-constable. Dr. Evans said the deceased died on the 8th inst. His leg had been broken by the violence which he had received. A post-mortem examination of the deceased had been made, and it had been found that the cause of death was epilepsy and inflammation of the lung "associated with the injury which he had received to his leg." A juror said the medical witnesses placed them in a very awkward position by not stating whether the broken leg was the cause of deceased's death. Dr. Evans said he could not positively state whether the injury to the leg accelerated deceased's death or not. The coroner having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of "manslaughter" against Thomas Brown for feloniously killing and slaying John Loveman.

On Saturday, an alarming accident occurred on the West Harlepool section of the North-Eastern Railway, between Coxhoe and Ferryhill Stations. On Saturday morning a market train runs from Coxhoe to Stockton and West Harlepool, and the carriages are brought as far as the junction, where they are attached to the Spennymoor portion of the train. Not being "pay" week, only three carriages left Coxhoe on Saturday morning. All went on right until within a mile or two of Ferryhill, near to Cornforth-lane-end, when the engine flew off the line, and took with it the carriages and the guard's van. The train was going at between twenty and thirty miles an hour, and the rails were torn up and bent, and the sleepers and earth were ploughed up for some distance. The engine, with one carriage attached, went a distance of about eighty yards before it came to a standstill. The engine-man, Richard Owens, and the fireman kept on the engine, and did all in their power to slacken its speed. Two of the carriages, containing seventeen passengers, and the guard's van, became disconnected from the other portion of the train by the breaking of the couplings before they had proceeded many yards, and afterwards travelled in the ploughed-up track of the engine a distance of thirty yards, when they were precipitated over the battery side, lodging sideways on the ledge at the bottom. The principal portion of the occupants were women, and their shrieks were fearful. The guard and passengers in the foremost carriage at once got out and went to render every assistance, but it was found that none of the passengers were seriously injured. It is supposed that a rail had slipped out of its cradle, and projecting upwards, had caught the wheel of the engine and thrown it off the way.

GENTLEMAN ONLY.—Avoid the unpleasantness caused by the loss of a brace button, by insulating upon having your trousers fitted with HURST'S PATENT BUTTONS, which never come off, and are fixed at the rate of five per minute. Patentees' Depot, 482, New Oxford-street, W. (Advertisement.)

YOUNG'S ASSORTED CORE AND BUSHON FLASERS are the best ever invented for giving immediate ease. Price 6d. and 1s. per box. Observe the Trade Mark—H. Y.—without which none are genuine. May be had of most respectable chemists in town and country. Wholesale Manufacturers, 14, Cornhill-lane, Aldersgate-street, E.C. London. (Advertisement.)

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDAL FAMILY SEWING AND EMBROIDERING MACHINES for every home, are the simplest, cheapest, and best; doing every variety of domestic and fancy work in a superior manner. List of agents, and full particulars, at the Patent Sewing Machine Co., 12, Abchurch-lane, London. (Advertisement.)

FRANCE.

"All Paris," says *La Liberté*, "will be speaking of the *ridotto* which was given at the *mi-Lent* by the Princess de Metternich. The *fete* partook of the semi serious, half-mad character of a day in *mi-Lent*. The gravity consisted in the circumstance that all the men were in black, its fooling in the fact that the women were masked and disguised in dominoes of all forms and colours. An excellent orchestra, playing the gayest and most seducing airs in a room where promenading and intrigue replaced the dances of carnival time; a buffet groaning under the weight of sweet-meats—a kind of lasting frolic, which involved the slaughter of neither sheep nor helters—such was the *coup d'oeil* presented by the cosmopolite and eclectic saloon of the Princess de Metternich—a saloon over which presides each Thursday a lady distinguished amongst all for the vivacity and freedom of her wit, for the most seductive charms, and a grace of manner that recall the fine beauties of the last century." Madame de Pourtales wore a charming puce and rose domino; the Princess Gasparin and Duchess of Colonna wore rose-coloured dominoes; Madame de Persigny a black one. Four dominoes had muffs on their heads, and attracted a great deal of attention; another wore a flowerpot on her head; another had her shoulders covered with ivy, and one had a white cat. The *fete* broke up in the morning.

"We are informed," says the *Pays*, "that during the illness of the Prince Imperial the ambassadors of England, Austria, and Prussia were instructed by their sovereigns to inquire each day as to the state of his Imperial highness, and transmit the news in the evening. Similar instructions were received by the representatives of several other Governments." The *Moniteur* publishes a notification that the health of the Prince Imperial is now entirely re-established.

The Emperor's second volume of "Julius Cæsar," on which he is at this moment said to be very hard at work, will probably appear early in April. It will contain thirty maps of ancient Gaul, to the accuracy of which the Emperor has personally attended with scrupulous care.

A Paris correspondent of the *Independence Belge*, writing on the 9th, says:—"I went yesterday, partly by chance and partly from curiosity, to the Champ de Mars, which is being broken up in every direction for the immense building necessary for the Universal Exhibition of 1867. It is a curious, a wonderful, a moving sight. Imagine a whole army of workmen. There they are, several thousands of them, grimy, shaggy, in blouses and in latens, with pickaxe, mattock, axe, wheelbarrow, cart, and waggon, making excavations, filling up hollows, heaping up mountains, erecting whole forests of beams and framework. You might fancy they were building the Tower of Babel or the Pyramids, or the foundations of several cathedrals. It is an anti-hill, a gigantic human anti-hill. I know only two undertakings presenting as much interest—Mont Cenis and the Suez Canal. The Parisians flock in large numbers to the works. It was fine yesterday, and about two thousand were there."

THE CHOLERA IN ALEXANDRIA.

Official information received at Malta from Alexandria by telegraph states that cholera has reappeared there. The Government of Malta has placed all arrivals from Alexandria in thirty days' quarantine.

MEXICO.

A letter from Mexico in the *Moniteur* clearly shows that the Republican party now disposes of a very considerable force which must be regularly armed and paid. There is fighting going on in the districts of Oajaca, Michoacan, Sinaloa, and other quarters. Colonel Lopez had been attacked by a Mexican force, consisting of 500 horsemen. The events at Bagdad had incited a Mexican chief, Pedro Mendez, to attack the Imperial troops. The "centre of the empire," we are told, "is perfectly calm." This is Vera Cruz news of the 14th February. Here, then, the official journal of France has to record that nearly all over the Mexican empire the Juarez bands are keeping the Imperial troops at work. This is a discouraging fact, because the necessity of a large foreign force is precisely why the new empire cannot be made to pay.

AMERICA.

General Grant has returned to Washington after receiving great attention in New York, and being presented with £25,000 by the leading citizens. The *New York Herald* advocates General Grant as the next President.

The Fenian Congress at Pittsburg has adjourned, after disclaiming all connexion with American party politics, and adopting an address urging immediate preparations for war. Reports telegraphed to Canada by English detectives at Pittsburg state that General Sweeney's plan is to make a demonstration against Canada next month with a small force, and strike New Brunswick by way of the Maine frontier with his main columns.

A secret military council of O'Mahony's party has been held at New York. They have issued an address, signed by 125 naval and military officers of the late Federal volunteer service, urging an immediate and direct strike against Ireland. It is reported that an armed Fenian band has attacked the bank at Stanbridge, Upper Canada.

A special despatch from Washington announces that at the Fenian meeting held in that city intimations were given of a plan to seize British Columbia, and establish a harbour for privateers on the Pacific coast.

The British minister is understood to have forwarded a communication to the State Department on the subject.

A BOY MURDERER.—On Sunday afternoon last a boy aged 11 years, named Frederick Mason, was taken into custody at Bessemer, near Doncaster, on the charge of attempting to murder Patrick Davies, aged five, and Margaret Davies, aged three years, brother and sister. The attempt was most determined and deliberate. In the neighbourhood of Bowington a number of navvies are employed by Messrs Smith, Knight, and Co., the contractors for the Doncaster and Gainsborough Railway, and the two Davies, as well as Mason, are the children of parents residing there. Mason was employed by a neighbouring farmer to tend one of his fields to keep the crows away; and he went on Sunday and enticed the two Davies with him. It appears that about two o'clock Mason began to beat them with a stick upon the head, and when both became insensible he threw them into the River Torn, which runs close by. The children began to cry, and he took them out and commenced a savage assault upon them, inflicting fearful wounds on the head and face. When he had made them insensible a second time he threw them again into the Torn, but fortunately the water was not more than six inches deep. The water revived them, and Patrick held his sister's head above water; and as soon as Mason had gone away he began to call for assistance, and his cries attracted the attention of one of the navvies in the locality, who, knowing them, removed both to their father's hut, between Bowington and Bessemer. A messenger was sent to Doncaster for Mr. J. Slater, surgeon, who, arriving at Bessemer, found the children greatly injured. The little girl was unable to speak for more than two hours, and the boy on being rescued was even in a more dangerous state. The former told her parents that Mason had beaten them and thrown them twice into the river; and, acting upon this information, policeman Cowen apprehended him, and he, at once, and with a careless indifference, admitted that he had done as the girl had said.

HORRIBLE CRUELTY TO A SERVANT GIRL.

At the Dorchester assizes, Frederick Thomas Gumb and Anna Maria Gumb were indicted for having neglected to supply Emily Fox, a servant, with necessary food, and also for having done, or caused to be done, such bodily harm to the said Emily Fox that her life was endangered at Sherborne on the 1st of July.

Mr. H. T. O'Le and Mr. Collins prosecuted; and Mr. Karlake, Q.C., and Mr. Flocks defended the prisoners.

It was one of the most painful and distressing cases ever heard, even surpassing that of the Birds, which created so great a sensation some years since. The girl in question had been an inmate of the Sherborne Union. The prisoners were man and wife; the husband was foreman to a large silk factory at Sherborne. The facts of the case are simple, but sadly painful. This unfortunate child, the subject of this inquiry, was what was termed a workhouse girl—a poor, friendless orphan—an illegitimate child born in the Union, brought up there, living there all her early life, and until she went into the service of the prisoners. She was ignorant of the name of her father, knew not her mother. In May, 1864, she was between twelve and thirteen years of age. The female prisoner went to the Union, and inquired for a nurse girl. People went there for servants because they had them at a cheap rate. The master of the house recommended this girl, and she went on a month's trial. She was then in perfect health. She was a particularly healthy, plump girl when she went into the service of the prisoners. In the spring of 1865 she ran away, but the workhouse authorities sent her back again. Nothing more was known of her until Christmas-eve last. About nine o'clock that night this poor child was brought to the workhouse, by whom was not known. She was taken in, and at that time she was apparently dying. She was a complete skeleton—cold, pulseless, and to all appearance almost at the last gasp. She was so much altered that the master and nurse could not recognise her. The authorities, to their great credit, acted with the greatest kindness, but her instantly to bed, and sent for the medical officer of the Union, who at once attended. He found her in such a state that he did not expect her to live. She was as cold as a corpse, was speechless, and unable to swallow. By the greatest kindness and attention she was gradually revived. The case was reported to the guardians, and the poor creature told her story. It appeared that from the first moment she was treated with the most revolting cruelty, and was nearly starved. She had to sleep on a straw bed, with only a sheet and counterpane to cover her; her food was cold potatoes and cold cabbage, and those were dressed in quantities so that they lasted her a week, with sometimes a little broth, and sometimes some pieces of dry bread. The female prisoner had cruelly beaten her. The bridge of her nose was broken, her ear was cut with a blow from a stick, so that the prisoner had to sew it up with a needle and thread. She was covered with bruises from blows inflicted by her mistress. The poor girl was friendless and had no one to complain to. On Christmas eve, about seven o'clock, the wife went to the Union and told the master that she must send the girl back, as her husband would not allow her to remain longer in the house on account of her dirty habits. He told her she could not be received without an order. The child, however, was brought to the Union at nine o'clock that night. In consequence of the kind treatment shown her she soon got better and improved very much, and was now able to give her evidence in court.

We give the evidence in detail.

John O'Le: I am the master of the workhouse at Sherborne. Emily Fox was in the union when I went there. She is now fourteen. In May, 1864, the female prisoner came to the workhouse to inquire for a servant. I showed her this girl, who was an illegitimate child. Mrs. Gumb took her for a month on trial. She had not to pay wages, but clothe and feed her. At the end of the month she said she was satisfied with the girl, and would keep her if she was clothed. The board supplied her with clothes. She was a healthy, strong, good-looking girl, plump. She went on the 20th of May, 1864. Some time after (about seven or eight months) she came back to the workhouse, but I sent her back to the prisoners. I saw her again on Christmas eve, 1865. Mrs. Gumb called at seven that evening, and told me she must send her back, as her husband declared she should not sleep there another night, as she was dirty in her habits. I said she must get an order from the relieving officer. I said, "Don't turn the girl out of doors, but send her to me, and I will take her without an order." She said nothing about her being ill. At nine o'clock I saw the girl sitting in the hall. I said, "This is not Fox," she was so much altered, thin, pale, and her face discoloured; wounds on her elbow, and something the matter with her ear. I ordered her to be taken to the sick ward, and I sent for a doctor. On the 3rd of February she was much improved, and she weighed 60lb. I weighed her again on the 17th, and she then weighed 66lb. She is still in the sick ward.

Cross-examined: I had taken the girl twelve months before she went to the prisoner into my apartments to teach her. She had the ordinary workhouse diet, 6oz of bread and a pint and a half of gruel for breakfast; for dinner, 1½lb of potatoes and 5oz of cooked beef on Monday, and 6oz of mutton and 2oz of cheese for supper, with slop tea, the same for three days. The other days, soup. The seventh day as the pudding day. She had that diet. At Dorchester they have only meat twice a week, and other days bread and cheese. She ran away in the spring of 1865. I had no reason to find fault with her when she lived with me. When I weighed her she had been doing nothing for six weeks.

Emily Fox: I am in the Union. Mrs. Gumb took me as a servant in May, 1864. I sometimes washed, sometimes nursed the children, and did the work of the house. My master was foreman of the silk factory. There were two children. I had cold potatoes and cabbage for breakfast, and the same for dinner, and two or three times a week a very little meat. Sometimes I had bread and butter, and sometimes dry bread for tea. I went to bed between ten and eleven. I slept in a room next to a garret on a straw mattress. I had one sheet and a counterpane to cover me. The potatoes and cabbage were boiled in quantities which sometimes lasted me a week. They had fried potatoes and bacon for breakfast, and hot potatoes and cabbage and meat for dinner. They had tea and bread and butter. They were locked in the safe. My potatoes and cabbage were kept in the same safe. Mistress treated me very unkindly. Mistress beat me with a ground ash stick on the nose, and she told me she had broken the bridge of my nose; it was very painful and bled much. It is bad now. It was on a Saturday, two or three months before Christmas eve. She cut my ear open with the stick, and she sewed it up with a needle and cotton. It gave me great pain (there was the mark on the ear now). It was because I was not strong enough to carry the boiler. She struck me with the stick across my back, and sometimes kicked my legs and my face, and gave me a black eye. She knocked me down, and then kicked me. She knocked me down, cut my head open against the leg of the table, put some plaster on, and covered it with ink. There was nobody there but my mistress. Master told me when she did not give me enough to eat I was to tell him of it. I told him two or three times a week and sometimes he gave me bread and cheese and meat. He was away during the daytime. I was very ill when I was taken to the workhouse. Sometimes I went into the town on a Saturday night with my mistress, but not by myself. On Christmas eve I was ill from bruises on my elbow and back, and legs, and my face was all coloured where she kicked me.

Cross-examined: Their house was near the factory where there were 300 or 400 people at work. I went into the garden. There were some cottages near and a street. I told my story in February to the magistrates. I had a basin of broth two or three times a week. For tea I sometimes had bread or bread and butter, a basin

of broth or tea. Mr. Gumb was at the factory the whole day. He gave me the bread and cheese when Mrs. Gumb was out of the way. It was in March, 1865 that I ran away. I was sent back. My mistress was confined of her second child while I was in the service. I was put to bed at Mr. Gumb's when I was ill, and was attended by a doctor. I had not done anything when she beat me. I used to do all I could. She beat me every day with an ash stick all the time I was there—several times every day in the house, not out of the house, or in the garden. She did not beat me when I was in bed ill.

Re-examined: The bruises could be seen. The broth was water broth with fat in it. The garden in front of the house is as long as this court.

Elizabeth Fuller: I am a nurse in the workhouse. I know Fox in May, 1864. She was a very strong, healthy girl, full of flesh. On Christmas-eve, 1865, she came to the house. She was very thin, and nearly dead. She made a complaint as well as she could. Her body was full of bruises and black and blue marks. She had a mark across her nose; the shape of it was altered. Her ear had been sewn up. The skin was broken on the elbows and the hips. I put her in bed in warm blankets, in the sick ward. I attended her night and day. We sat up with her the first night.

Cross-examined: The doctor saw all this.

Dr. Williams: I am medical officer to the Union. I was sent for on Christmas-eve. I saw the girl on a bed in the sick ward. She was in a state of extreme exhaustion. I could feel no pulse at all in her wrist. She could not speak. She was as cold as a dead body. There was very weak pulsation of the heart. My first impression was that the child was dying, and I doubted whether it would be any good to do anything. She could not swallow when I attempted to give her gin and water. I had her body rubbed well. A fire was being lighted, and I supplied her with gin and water and gin and gruel for more than an hour. I stayed nearly three hours. I had a bed put close to the fire, and ordered two women to stay up and keep feeding her all night. I called next morning to find if she was living. She had revived. The external appearances were a long scar from the left temple across to the right ear; a fresh bleeding wound on the lower part of the nose. There was an old injury to it. The nose was distorted in shape. There was a large sore place, with a bruise surrounding it, on the back. There were bed sores on the back. She was very emaciated indeed. Her legs were very thin indeed, with several bruises on them. Every point of bone showed sores from the emaciated state of the body. My finger and thumb met round her thigh. Her state was produced from hard usage and want of food. There was no organic disease. An insufficient supply of food would produce this state. I made a report to the guardians. Her life was in extreme danger. She needed a little every day. I don't think she left her bed for nearly three weeks. She is now making flesh and improving. I think she will eventually recover, but I had thought she was going to die. The bruises appeared to have been produced by acts of violence and blows. She has been under my care ever since.

Mr. Karlake addressed the jury with great force in favour of the prisoner. He called upon them not to believe the girl, for he suggested that her statement of having been cruelly beaten every day, and several times a day, during the whole time she was in the service must be false; and if they could not believe her as to that, they could not believe a word she uttered. There being no one in the house but the prisoner and the girl it was therefore impossible to contradict her. The girl might have made complaints to any one at the factory, which was near to the house of the prisoners. There certainly was nothing against Mr. Gumb, because the girl admitted that her master had given her more food when she asked for it, and the food with which she was generally supplied was equal to that she had been accustomed to have in the Union. He submitted that they could not credit the unsupported statement of the girl.

Mr. Wilmut, the master of the prisoner, gave Mr. Gumb an excellent character for kindness, forbearance, and good temper.

The learned judge summed up. It was a very serious case and of great importance to the public, for these children had only the law to protect them. The girl was the servant of the male prisoner, but no personal neglect was brought home to him, nor were any blows inflicted by him or in his presence; he was at the head of his household, but from his being absent the whole day he did not appear to have seen or known of any violence having been inflicted upon her. It appeared that the master had told her if she had not sufficient food to tell him of it. But with regard to the wife they would say whether she, having the knowledge and having the power to prevent or alter it, had given the girl proper and sufficient food. Did they think the male prisoner was guilty? Did they think the female prisoner was guilty?

The jury acquitted the husband, and convicted the wife.

Mr. Justice Byles said: Anna Maria Gumb, I shall make no comment upon this most barbarous usage; it speaks for itself. The sentence is that you be imprisoned in the common goal for twelve months.

RECOVERY OF STOLEN WATCHES AT GLASGOW.—The Glasgow police authorities have once more been successful in recovering a considerable number of stolen watches. The officers have lately had their attention directed to the movements of an Englishman who in Glasgow answered to the name of John Allkin, but whose aliases are here too numerous to mention. He hailed from London, and it was suspected that the object of his visit was the collection of valuable, but not bulky, stolen property. Since July last he has been several times in Glasgow, and on each occasion he has been closely watched by the police. On Tuesday morning Messrs. McCall and Thompson, of the police force, who had reason to expect another visit from Allkin, were in waiting at the South Side Station, where, after the exercise of a little patience, they observed the Englishman alight from the London train. Allkin took private lodgings in the vicinity of the cattle-market, and thither Superintendent McCall and Detective Thompson proceeded next day. On entering the room the gentleman "wanted" was found seated at breakfast. Messrs. McCall and Thompson observed a brassy box beneath the table, having on it the address, "Captain John Hutchinson, Freemasons' Tavern, Old King-street, Deptford, London." Allkin was asked if the box belonged to him, but he denied all knowledge of it. On opening the box the officers found a quantity of old and soiled clothing, and in a corner a cigar-box. This latter box, on examination, was found to contain ten gold and twenty-five silver watches, two gold guard chains, five gold Albert chains, a morocco box, and a pair of beautiful cameo earrings; a fine file, with a small bone, which might be used in obliterating the numbers of watches; a watchmaker's eye-glass, another magnifying glass, and a bottle of acid for testing the quality of metals, carefully labelled "Poison." Allkin still denied all knowledge of the property, but he was conveyed to the Central police-office, where, on a person were found twenty sovereigns, some silver, a bank book with £80 at his credit in one of the Glasgow banks, and a "two-deck" cheque-book. The prisoner will be remitted to the sheriff.

A COUGH, COLD, OR AN IRRITATED THROAT, if allowed to progress, results in serious Pulmonary and Bronchial affections, oftentimes incurable. BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES reach directly the affected parts and give almost instant relief. In BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, and CATARRH they are beneficial. They have gained a great reputation in America, and are now sold by all respectable medicine dealers in this country at 1s. 1½d. per box. (Advertisement.)

BEYOND ALL COMPETITION!—T. R. WILLIS, Maker and Importer of Musical Instruments. Established 1813. The trade and amateurs supplied with Harmonium Reeds, Musical Strings, and all kinds of fittings. Lists free. 29, Mark Lane, London. (Advertisement.)

BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.

At the Derby Assizes was heard a case—Thorpe v. Bright. This was an action for a breach of promise of marriage.

Mr. Serjeant Hayes and Mr. Markham were for the plaintiff; and Mr. Digby Seymour, Q.C., and Mr. Wells for the defendant.

Mr. Serjeant Hayes said the present was as heartless a case as was ever brought before a court, but he would not magnify it for the letters he should read to them would speak for themselves. The real plaintiff, Miss Annie Thorpe, was nineteen years of age, and therefore might be legally called an infant. She was the daughter of a respectable tradesman, now deceased, and resided at Uppingham, Rutland. Her father was a builder, and had a family of ten children, but unfortunately he died before he could see them settled in life, and the plaintiff accepted a situation as lady's maid in the family of Mrs. Dixon, of Pagu Hall, Sheffield. Mrs. Dixon and her daughters went to Buxton during the season, and were accompanied by the plaintiff, remaining there about a month. They all knew the Crescent at Buxton, and the grand hotels, but one of the greatest attractions in the town was the shop of Mr. Bright, the jeweller. The defendant was Mr. Michael Octavius Bright, who was thirty-three or thirty-four years of age, the son of old Mr. Bright. No one went to Buxton without patronising Mr. Bright, therefore Mrs. Dixon and family called at the shop, accompanied by the plaintiff, and Mr. Bright's son fell in love with the young lady, who was possessed of great personal attractions. He proposed to her, and was accepted before the family left Buxton. After she left Buxton defendant began corresponding with her. The correspondence lasted from May, 1865 to October, in the same year, when it was brought to a close. Such was the defendant's regard and affection for the plaintiff that there was hardly a day but a letter—and a long one, too—was received by her. On the 30th September he gives a reason for breaking off the connexion:—"Terrible row with father. I thought he would put me in a position to marry you, but he has not. Don't grieve and make a bother. I cannot doubt but he will come round. You misunderstood me if you thought I was not dependent upon my father. My affections are not altered, but you must really not annoy me, I am so upset." On the 14th October he wrote a letter in which he says, "It is no use longer to conceal the whole truth. I must tell you that some one told my brother in Sheffield that you had been in service in Dixon's, and there has been the devil's own row at home, and I ask you what can I do? I leave it to your good sense. I have no wish to grieve you, but I don't wish to take you into a circle that will look upon you with ridicule, and will despise you. If you are sensible, you will see it in a proper light. Then, again, your religion and mine being so different would cause unpleasantness." He concludes, "I hope you will acquit me of want of honour—don't fret, old girl—my tears blind me. (Laughter.) I will send your letters and lockets to-morrow, and I hope you will return my letters." He did send the letters, and they were thrown into the fire. Mr. Pearce wrote to him, and he answered it from the Royal Hotel, Derby, saying she had jewellery of his, which he would give her in exchange for his letters. He said, "Sell my love letters to pay your debts." He also wrote, "In exchange for the letters and jewellery I will give you £20." The learned serjeant made an eloquent appeal for ample damages.

Mr. Nassi Welshman, chemist, Northampton, in August last heard the defendant say he was going to be married, and intimated that it was to the plaintiff.

Mr. Pearce, Northampton, said he married a sister of the plaintiff, and Mr. Bright visited at his house. The defendant inquired of him as to the character and position of the plaintiff, and appeared satisfied with the replies he received. The defendant said he was independent of his father, and could go in for £1,000 a year. He said he should like to be married in three months. When visiting at his house, the defendant received a telegram from his father, and began to cry. (Laughter.) He said, "Annie, my love, let's go to London. I will get a special license, and we will return to Buxton man and wife to-morrow night." Witness refused to allow that.

Mr. S. Turner, of Buxton, knew Mr. Bright, who had carried on business in Buxton for forty years, and occupied a leading position. The defendant was engaged in business with his father.

Mr. Digby Seymour made an eloquent appeal for the defendant, in mitigation of damages, but the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff; damages £500.

A LADY AND HER TWO LOVERS.

An extraordinary case was heard before the Durham magistrates yesterday. Henry Chapman, who lately kept the Crown Inn, in New-street, in that city, and previously of Hartlepool, but who said he was a master mariner, at present residing at Scarborough, charged William Sinclair, gardener, residing at Coulson's-buildings, Hall-gate-street, Durham, with an assault on him, on Saturday night last. Miss Mary Ann Kellett, a prepossessing young lady, also preferred a charge of assault against the defendant. Mr. J. E. Marshall appeared for the complainants, and Mr. Brignall for the defendant. The court was crowded by a large audience, the details connected with an assault in a case of love possessing a great amount of interest. It appeared that the defendant, Sinclair, a widower, about forty years of age, had paid his addresses to the young lady for two years past, and considered himself her accepted lover. As such he had possessed himself, or as the defence had it, was presented by her, with a lock key, by which he was enabled at all seasons to introduce himself into her presence. Things went on thus for some time, when Miss Kellett's father, a man of some property, and occupying a respectable position, took ill, and died, upon which something substantial devolved upon the young lady. Her warmth of affection now began to cool, and she speedily took on with a new lover in the shape of the captain. The defendant becoming jealous away the heart of his betrothed, but had actually taken his bed and board beneath her roof, came to ascertain the truth of the reports he had heard by personal investigation. Accordingly, at two o'clock in the morning, the defendant armed himself with candle and matches, and stole upon the sleeping and unconscious lovers. By some means he obtained access to the lady's house, and unheeded stole upstairs. Entering a bed-room he found the gallant captain fast asleep, and so the prosecutor dealt him a murderous blow on the head with some blunt instrument. The captain, stunned, jumped out of bed, when a struggle took place, and he ultimately succeeded in making his escape. He went to the back door of a well known hostelry kept by Mr. Seymour, who admitted him. He was without any clothing except his night shirt, and blood flowing copiously down his face. Mrs. Seymour dressed him in a suit of clothing, cleaned his face, and dressed his wounds. Defendant during his time had gone to Miss Kellett, who had taken refuge in a dark room, and upbraided her for her perfidy and unfeeling conduct. The lady, as she said, being in mortal fear of his violence, prayed for forgiveness, and promised to become his wife next week, if he desired it. She, however, next morning, with her new lover, the captain, went off to Sunderland. The defence was that the case was merely one of a common assault. The bench said the defendant would be fined 2s. 6d., and each party would pay their own costs. The announcement was received with loud applause in court. (Leeds Mercury.)

DOLL EVENINGS MADE MERRY.—All the new Parlor Games, Magic Lanterns, Musical Boxes (from 12s.) and Toy-animals of 1d. Toys—the 5s. 6d. parcels contain 73 articles. Arthur Granger's Noted Cheap Toy Warehouse, 308, High Holborn, W.J., and the New Bazaar, 95 and 96, High-street, Borough. (Advertisement.)

HER MAJESTY AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

Her Majesty the Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and her Serene Highness Princess Hohenlohe, left Buckingham Palace on Saturday last for Windsor Castle, where they arrived at two o'clock. The suite in attendance consisted of the Duchess of Roxburghe, the Hon. Mrs. Bruce, the Hon. Emily Oathart, the Hon. Florence Seymour, Major-General F. H. Seymour, Colonel F. H. Ponsonby, and the master of the household.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Miss Longley and the Duke of Roxburghe arrived at the castle on Saturday, and had the honour of dining with the Queen and royal family.

On the present page we give an illustration of a quiet scene in the White Drawing-room of Windsor Castle after the dinner.

A FENIAN AT ALDERSHOT.—At the Aldershot Petty Sessions, before Captain Newcombe, Mr. G. F. Birch, and Mr. H. F. Fitzroy, an Irishman named Edward Neal, described as a journeyman

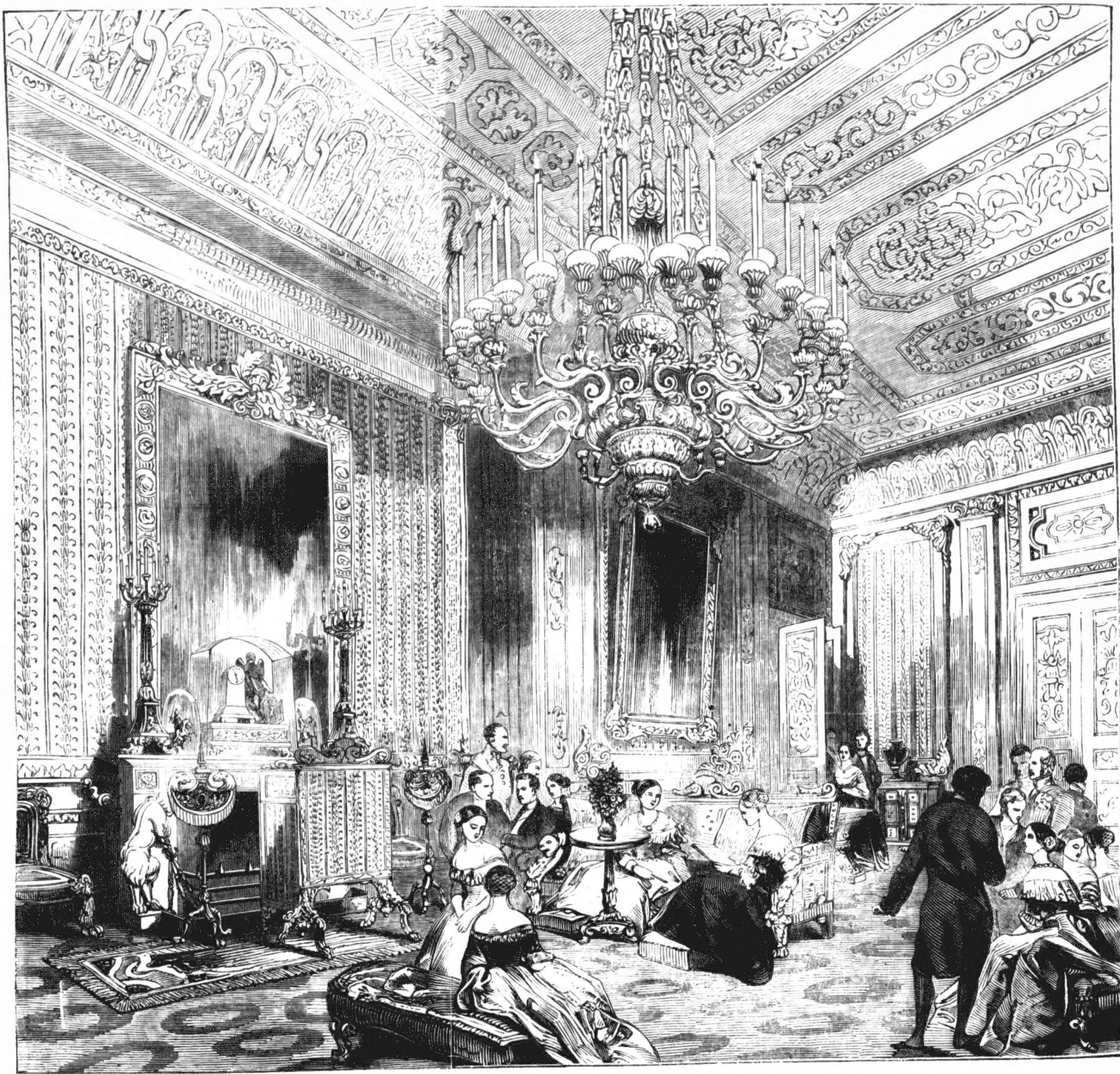
INSTITUTION FOR THE HOUSELESS POOR.

Is striking contrast with the engraving below of Her Majesty's White Drawing-room are the two opposite views of the Institution for the Houseless Poor. On the one hand there is every comfort, with brilliant surroundings; on the other, all that is gloomy and wretched. The one represents her Majesty at home: the other, her subjects without any home at all except that which is provided for them by charity.

"The treatment and condition of the metropolitan poor," says a contemporary, "is a stain upon our national character. The deaths of Daly and Gibson, whose cases aroused the public indignation scarcely a year ago, will not have been in vain if they lead to a full exposure of the system of which, assuredly, they were not the first victims. We had been accustomed to think that the New Poor-law, as it was long called, had removed the greater evils of beggary, and it seemed impossible that cruelty and wrong could be perpetrated with impunity under what is justly believed to be a humane enactment. We thought, naturally

as to frustrate the efforts in their behalf of the clergy, and to destroy all hope of their moral and religious improvement. No subject can be more important, and the rich must feel that parsimony and indifference will inevitably recoil upon them if no means are taken to prevent the spread of pauperism, and to assist in raising the character and independence of the metropolitan poor."

If such scenes as were recently brought to light by the "Amateur Casual" are to be swept away, then must the rich step forward in aid of such charities as the Institution for the Houseless Poor. This institution was originally established in 1819, and for many years funds rolled in abundantly. Not so in later years. The annual receipts fell to a few hundreds, and it was with the utmost difficulty the Refuge in Playhouse-yard, Whitecross-street, could be carried on. During the year as many as three or four thousand have been admitted to the institution. These have each received, on admission, half a pound of bread, and the same quantity on leaving in the morning. They have what water they like to drink; but in the case of illness, brandy and warm gruel is often administered. Fires are kept up in the dormitories, so that they are not cold. Everything, as will be



HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY "AT HOME."—THE WHITE DRAWING-ROOM, WINDSOR CASTLE.

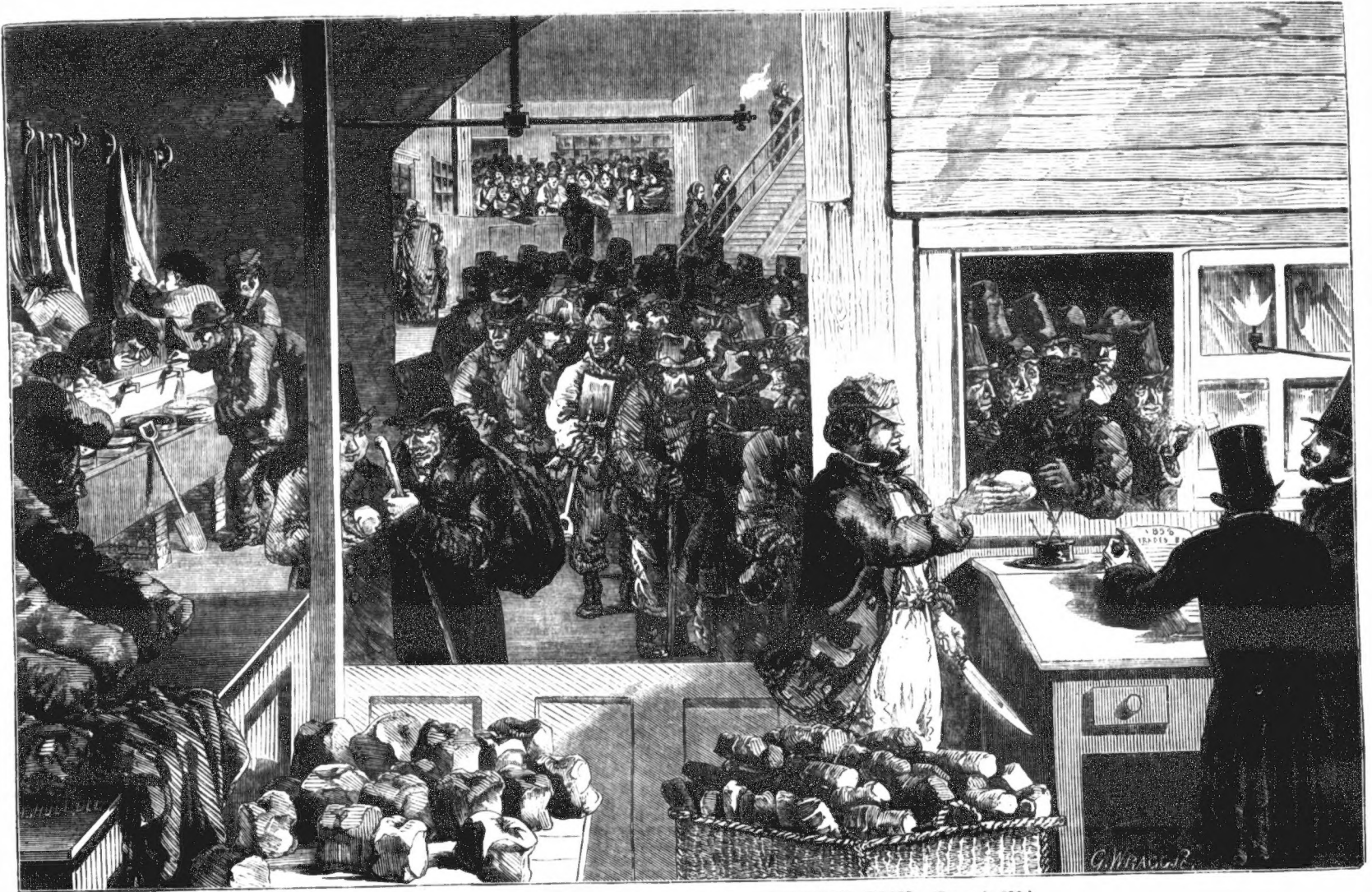
taylor, was charged with entering the camp and inciting soldiers to desert. It appeared that the prisoner went into a canteen in the camp, and addressing himself to Martin Carroll, a private in the 28th Regiment, said, "I am a Fenian." Carroll told him to sit down and conduct himself properly, upon which the prisoner continued, "If you had a spark of love for your country you would pull off those regimentals and be a Fenian like me." The words were reported to a sergeant, and the prisoner was taken into custody, when he said, "I'm a Fenian from the bottom of my heart," slapping his breast at the same time in token of sincerity. These facts were deposed to by several witnesses. The prisoner, who was stated to have been intoxicated when he made the treasonable overtures, strongly denied the charge. He said that during the time he had been in Aldershot he had done nothing but make overalls, and, as for Fenianism, it was a thing he never entertained, and he would have been an idiot to regard it with favour. The bench sentenced him to a month's imprisonment.

enough, that the few cases of neglect and suffering which came before the public from time to time at coroners' inquests were the fault of individuals, and ought not to be charged upon the Poor-law or its administrators. The case, however, is now entirely otherwise. We have no longer any excuse for leaving matters where they stand. The evidence as to the condition of the metropolitan workhouses presented to parliament last year, the facts brought out by the *Lancet* commission, and the numerous cases of neglect and death which have come to light almost weekly for the last few months, reveal a state of things of which no conception could otherwise have been formed, and show that our dumb animals are treated with greater consideration and care than our sick and distressed brethren. It is, indeed, time that the public should be fully informed upon this important question. In many parts of the metropolis pauperism is advancing with such giant strides that it threatens whole districts with overwhelming ruin. Already the condition of the lower orders is such

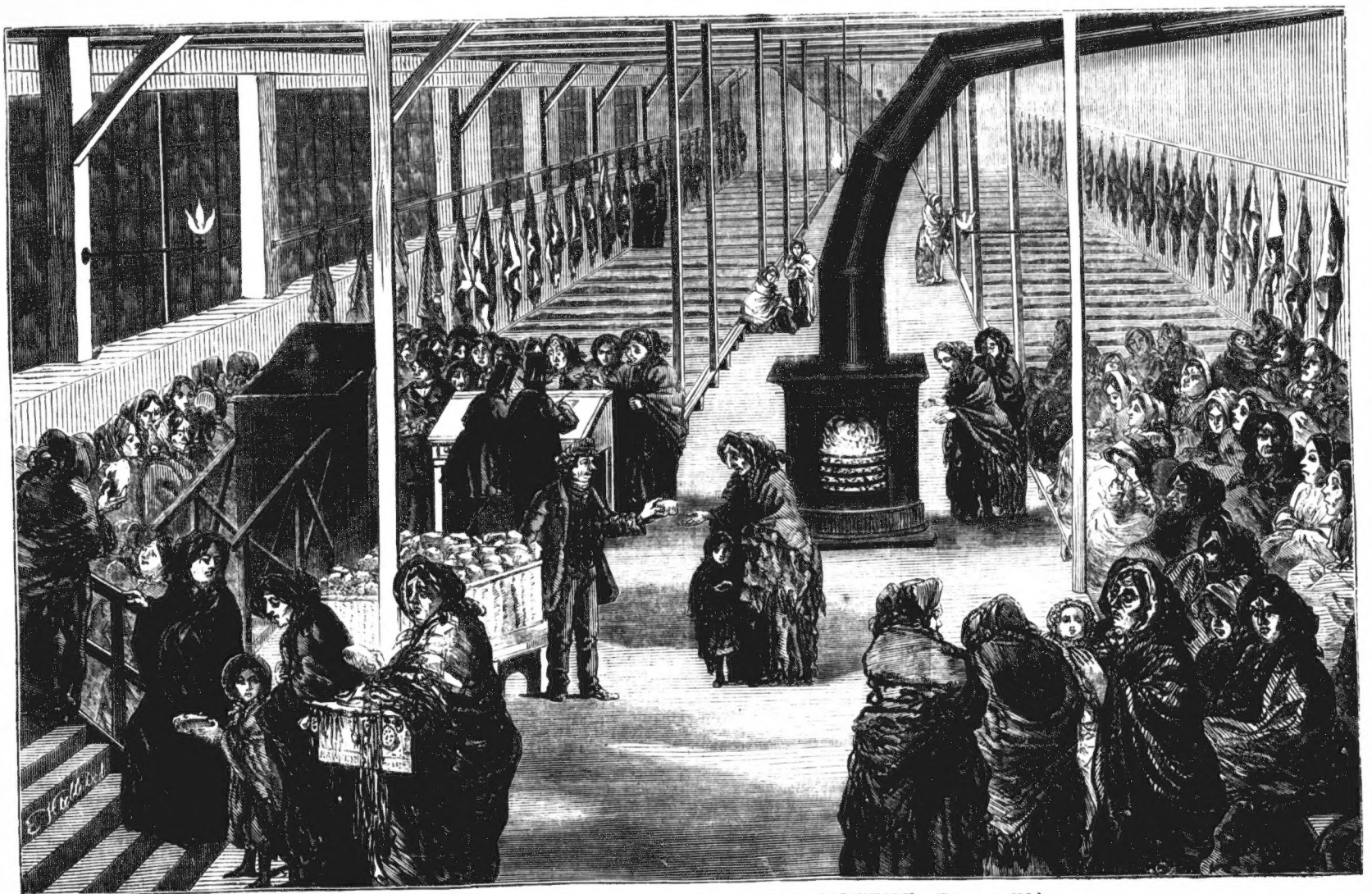
seen by our illustrations, is kept perfectly clean, and the best order possible is always maintained.

We trust these illustrations may have the effect of turning the public attention to such charitable institutions as those we have alluded to; and that much more will be done for the starving, houseless poor than hitherto.

STRUCK WITH APOPLEXY ON A HOUSETOP.—At St. Omer, a few days since, a slater, at work on the roof of a house, with his feet against a ladder, was struck with apoplexy, and remained immovable in that position the whole night. In the morning he was accidentally noticed by a person in the neighbourhood, and when assistance reached the unfortunate man his limbs were found to be quite stiff, but he was still alive. Being conveyed to the hospital, where every care was afforded him, he never rallied, and expired some hours after.



INSTITUTION FOR THE HOUSELESS POOR.—ADMISSION ROOM. (See page 628.)



INSTITUTION FOR THE HOUSELESS POOR.—WOMEN'S DORMITORY. (See page 628.)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.			
ANNIVERSARIES.			
D.	M.	W.	L. B.
17	S	St. Patrick's Day	A. M. P. M.
18	S	Fifth Sunday in Lent—Pr. Leases b, 1848 ...	2 15 2 34
19	M	Sun rises 6h 7m; sets 6h 10m.	2 54 3 14
20	T	Sir Isaac Newton died, 1727	3 36 3 57
21	W	Cranmer burnt, 1556	4 18 4 29
22	T	R form Bill carried, 1831	5 1 5 24
23	F	Cambridge Term ends	5 47 6 9
Miles' charges.—First quarter, 23rd, 1u 3m. p.m.			
Sunday Lessons.			
MORNING.			
Exodus 3; John 5.			
AFTERNOON.			
Exodus 5; 1 Tim. 5.			

NOTES OF THE WEEK
Fast Day.—21st, dedicated to Abbot Benedict (A.D. 543).

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.
* Correspondents finding their questions unanswered will understand that we are unable to do so, either from their peculiarity, or that our correspondents with little trouble could readily obtain the information themselves.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT.—All letters to be addressed to Mr. JOHN DICKS, 318, Strand. Persons unable to procure the PENNY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY News from news-vendors, or agents may forward the amount for a single number, or for a term of subscription, by money order, payable to Mr. DICKS, or to the order of the STAMPERED EDITION. It is particularly requested that all letters sent will send their address in full to prevent mis-arrangement of the paper. The termination of a Subscription will be indicated by the paper being sent in a coloured wrapper. Receipt stamps cannot be received in payment of a subscription to this journal.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.—THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY News and Bow Bells sent post-free to any part of the United Kingdom for three penny postage stamps. Persons wishing to subscribe for a quarter, or so as to receive the two through the post, may remit a subscription of 3s. 3d. to Mr. John Dicks at the Office, 318, Strand.

A WIDOW.—To obtain the admission of a boy into the Boy's Coat School, you must obtain a recommendation from a governor, a list of whom can be procured at the end of the year, or from the Secretary.

F F.—Mr. Boulton did not pay in "The Streets of London" at the Princess's Theatre.

R. T. T.—We have repeatedly answered the question before. The President was lost about May 9, 1841.

LELIA.—Miss Shireff was the original Amilia in Rooke's opera of that name. Miss P. Horton played Lelia. It was produced December 2nd, 1857.

T. M. B.—John Barnett's opera of "The Mosaic Myth" was produced at the Lyceum, when it was called the English Opera House, Monday, August 15th, 1854. Miss E. Homer was the original Lelia, Mr. Wilson, Donald; Mr. B. Phillips, Hela; and Mr. Kealey, Charlie.

REQUINA.—The Boulton Courtship was held in 1839.

COMUS.—M. Buffe, the famous French actor, retired from the stage, at Paris, in January 1859.

FRILIX (Newick).—His correspondent asks "Is it an act of felony for a person to wilfully open letters not addressed to him, the name being quite unlike and written in a very low, and what penalty would probably be attached to it?" It is a person's duty to open a letter, and in writing it to belong to him, he is guilty of a felony, and liable to a three years' penal servitude.

INCORP.—We should think that the Government Annuity Office, though many safe and respectable officers would afford you a higher rate, but we should not feel disposed to indicate one, as we object to incur the responsibility.

EDGAR.—Oscar's play of "The Surrender of Orléans" was revived at the Haymarket Theatre, with Edmund Kean as Gastache de St. Pierre, September 21st, 1851.

THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1866
REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

HER MAJESTY'S Ministers have in one particular followed the precedents of 1832. Lord Russell, who has recorded some of his recollections of that period, has narrated the advice which he gave to Lord Grey, that the plan of reform should be kept secret; since, "prematurely divulged, an adverse vote might kill the infant in its cradle." The same tactics have been adopted now; and the secret has been as perfectly kept as it was four-and-thirty years ago, and not less to the discomfiture of the enemies whose machinations the reference of the Government has for the time called. The measure which is now before the world, in the lucid exposition of Mr. Gladstone, is worthy of the hostility which it will certainly provoke, and which on Monday night was unequivocally declared, not only by the avowed enemies who attacked it in front, but by the more covert foes who assailed it in the rear. Parliament and the country now share the responsibility of the ministers, and must do their part. In 1832, both Lord Grey and Lord John Russell were of opinion that "none but a large measure would be a safe measure." Taking into account the change of circumstances and the altered temper of the public mind, the present Government has acted on the same impression. It does not give grudgingly. If the measure becomes law it will add to the constituencies a larger number of persons than was brought in by the measure of 1832, and will include a class of voters then entirely unconsidered. Liberals in parliament and in the nation must, however, be as true to the precedents of the Reform Act as the ministers. They must be prepared, if need be, to insist upon "the Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill."

If Mr. Gladstone were to analyze his division of mankind into dog-lovers and dog-haters, he would probably find the former class in a majority among those who live in the country, and the latter among those who live in towns. There can hardly be a greater nuisance than the London cur, snapping at restful horses, tripping up decrepit foot-passengers, barking at boys with baskets, pilfering from the counters of provision-shops, and serving no useful purpose whatever. If it were possible to impose and enforce a double tax on the owners of these odious and mischievous animals, which only escape being stolen because they are worthless, the measure would certainly be supported by public opinion in the metropolis. In rural districts, on the other hand, the canine race is far more popular. Not to speak of hounds, which form a class by themselves, or of dogs which are kept for the sake of companionship in or out of the house, the services of watch-dogs and sheep dogs are such that no restrictive tax upon them would long be tolerated. In Scotland, especially, where the sheep roam over hill-sides of vast extent, the shepherd would be helpless without his colley-dog, and is not always very willing to part with him at the church door. The marvellous instinct of this breed in the management of flocks is, indeed, little short of the faculty which we call reason, and we can hardly find it in our hearts to grudge them their exemption from taxation. Scotland, however, is more infested than any part of the United Kingdom, except Ireland, with "ownerless dogs," roving over the country and living at free quarters upon the

farmers. No one knows who breeds them, and Mr. Elliot, who called the attention of parliament to this subject, did not explain how they come to attach themselves to cottages where, according to him, they never get fed. They multiply, at all events, and no tax is ever paid for them, although, if Mr. Elliot's account is correct, they ought not only to be taxed, but exterminated. He tells us that the loss of sheep in Scotland amounts to ten per cent per annum, and that a large proportion of this is attributed to the ravages of dogs, which are practically exempt from duty. This state of things affords the legislature a good opportunity of reconsidering the general policy of the dog tax. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, who spoke as if oppressed by the magnitude of the question thus raised, declared that dogs had been "one of the standing difficulties of the revenue department ever since he had any connexion with it." There were formerly differential duties varying with the breed, a point which drives naturalists to despair, and opens out a whole vista of controversies about the origin of species. The system has since been altered, and there is now a separate rate of duty for packs of hounds and for greyhounds; but dogs of all other descriptions are subject to a tax of twelve shillings each, unless they happen to fall under a special exemption. Mr. Gladstone makes the most of the fact that the dog tax is paid, after all, on some 330,000 dogs, but this fact rather impresses us with a sense of its futility. We are not aware that a canine census has ever been taken, but it certainly would not surprise us to learn that three million dogs, or ten times the number on which duty is actually paid, are properly liable to it. Of course, a tax which brings in £170,000 per annum, or any other round sum, must not be lightly abandoned, but if it be inoperative precisely where it ought to be prohibitive, and levied only upon dogs which are at least harmless, it is high time to remodel it. The change proposed is threefold—to reduce the amount of the tax so as to diminish the temptation to evade it, to abolish all exemptions, and to substitute a license duty for the present mode of assessment.

SEARCHING FOR TRACES OF A MURDER.

The search, at Wigan, of the canal for the watch of James Barton, the engine tender, who was murdered at the Button or Bawhouse Pit, Haight, near Wigan, on the night of the 2nd of January, 1863, was commenced and nearly completed on Sunday last. According to the confession of one of the prisoners now lying in Kirkdale Gaol this watch was thrown into the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, about twenty yards from a row of houses which stand near to Pendlebury-bridge, some two and a half miles from the borough of Wigan; and at the last Liverpool Assizes an examination of the bottom of the canal was ordered by Mr. Baron Pigott. After much delay the inspection was fixed to be made on Sunday week, but owing to the water not having been properly dammed another week had to pass before the task could be performed.

On Saturday, workmen employed by the Canal Company fixed the customary "sheeting" at Gibson's Bridge, about half a mile from the Button Pit, and by means of new step planks they also dammed the water at Arley Bridge, nearly a mile further north. This time these were strong enough, and next morning at daylight 107 navies from the Wigan Waterworks, in charge of Mr. Hunter, the borough engineer, to whom had been entrusted the management of the search, as well as thirty men furnished by the Canal Company, arrived at the spot to commence operations. They were armed with spades, riddles, barrows, and rakes, and they had also a plentiful supply of planking, with which they at once began to erect platforms, upon which the mud could be thrown so as to be conveyed more easily into the adjacent fields for subsequent examination. While some were thus engaged, others were raking the side nearest to the towing-path and carefully inspecting the gravel there; after these came a party who raised the mud from the bed of a little stream which ran down the centre, and scattered it over the gravel, and then these were followed by the rakers again. All these had a powerful stimulus to exertion, in the shape of an offer of £5 to the man who should discover the watch; but though all worked hard from daylight to dusk no one earned the reward. Still, however, it is quite possible that the watch may be found, for the whole of the mud which was removed has yet to be examined, and this week it will be passed through sieves carefully by the police.

There was a large crowd of spectators during the day, but none were allowed upon the canal bank, where a large body of police from the Wigan, Bolton, and Warrington divisions peered anxiously into the mud as it was scattered by the workmen.

ATTEMPTING TO KILL FOUR PERSONS AND COMMIT SUICIDE.

JOHN WRDLAND was charged at the Exeter assizes with attempting to take away the lives of four persons, and also attempting suicide.

The prisoner had formerly assisted on the farm of Mr. James Blatchford, Moortown, Tavistock, and was visiting there in November last. On a Tuesday evening, while Miss Elizabeth Blatchford was blowing the fire in the kitchen the prisoner stepped up behind her and shot her with a six-barrelled revolver. Mrs. Blatchford hearing the report rushed into the room and found prisoner standing near her daughter and presenting a pistol close to her ear. Her daughter was lying on the ground. Mrs. Blatchford cried out in horror, "You villain, what are you about?" whereupon prisoner presenting the pistol at her exclaimed in an angry tone, "I'll have you, too," and fired at her. At the moment, however, Selina Blatchford, another daughter, who had heard the first report, entered the room and clapped her arms firmly round the prisoner, thereby causing the ball to pass close by her mother's face. Prisoner managed to get his hand freed, and fired again over his shoulder at Selina, but missed his aim. The latter then rushed out of the kitchen with her mother. Another sister, Jane, however, hurried in, and raised her sister Elizabeth, who lay bleeding on the ground. They both tried to escape, but fell when near the door, and prisoner fired a fourth barrel at them. They got up, and hurried into an adjoining field, where their sister and mother were detaining their father lest he, too, might get within reach of the prisoner and become his target. Left alone in the kitchen, the prisoner took up a large butcher's knife lying on the dresser and cut his own throat, dividing the small arteries and the windpipe in two places. He then rushed out, blood flowing copiously from his throat; but was seized by Mr. Blatchford and his son, who bound up his wound; but he tore off the bandages, which, however, were again fastened by them.

Mr. W. C. Northey, surgeon, described the wounds.

It also appeared from the evidence that prisoner and Elizabeth Blatchford had been on intimate terms, and that he had got it into his head that her parents objected to the match, which made his dear Elizabeth uneasy.

Mr. Carter, for the defence, submitted that the evidence did not show that the pistol was loaded with bullets.

His lordship having summed up,

The jury found the prisoner "Guilty of attempting to murder Elizabeth Blatchford," the only case gone into. They recommended him to mercy.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

A MEETING of the inhabitants of Cheshire, called by the high sheriff of the county, Mr. B. Barbour, of Bolesworth Castle, in compliance with a requisition from the principal landowners and others resident in the county, was held at noon, on Saturday last, in the Shire Hall of Chester Castle, "to consider the propriety of devising means to compensate, to some extent, the farmers and others, either by subscription or otherwise, who have suffered so severely by the cattle plague, and who will not be entitled to receive anything under the provisions of the new Act." The high sheriff presided; and amongst those present were the Marquis of Westminster, K.G., Earl Grosvenor, M.P., the Lord Bishop of Chester, Viscount Combermere, Major-General Sir E. Const. Sir Harry Maitland, Sir Philip Egerton, M.P., Messrs. J. Laird, M.P., E. W. Wainike, M.P., and G. Tollemache, M.P., Colonel Olegg, Major Egerton Leigh, the Mayor of Chester, Messrs. S. Ledward, Joshua Dixon, Hardman, Erie, O. Bushell, &c.

The Marquis of Westminster, K.G., spoke on the aspect of the country around, and his despatched appearance, and upon the subject of a resolution which he proposed as follows:—"That this meeting acknowledges the hand of Providence in the sad visitation of the cattle plague, and deeply sympathises with the numerous farmers and others who are sufferers by the dire calamity."

Sir P. Egerton, Bart., M.P., seconded the motion. He said that the public at large were slow to understand the ravages that had been committed by this plague—the homes destroyed, the labourers thrown out of work, the farmers idle, their wives in tears and their daughters in mental service, were now the features of Cheshire life. At the very lowest computation, £10 per cow, they had suffered a loss of £385,140.

A resolution was then proposed by Mr. E. W. Wainike, M.P. for Stockport, seconded by Mr. O. BUSHELL, and carried unanimously, to the following purport:—"That a public subscription be entered into for recompensing those in the county of Cheshire who have suffered loss by the cattle plague, and will not under the new Act receive compensation; and that the banks in the city and county be empowered to receive contributions, and that a committee (named) be appointed to carry out the purpose of the resolution."

It was moved by Mr. J. LAIRD, M.P., seconded by Mr. G. CORNWALL LEIGH, M.P., "That the basis of the subscription be extended to the counties of Lancashire, Shropshire, Flintshire, Denbighshire, and the city of Chester."

Carried.
A vote of thanks to the sheriff, ably responded to, closed the business of the meeting.

The Marquis of Westminster gave the magnificent sum of 5,000l. to the subscription. The high sheriff gave 500l., Earl Grosvenor 800l., and Mr. E. W. Walker 200l. In all about 8,000l. was collected, some portion of which was to be made in two annual payments. The Marquis of Westminster's donation, large though it be, is only a moiety of the actual amount subscribed by him, as he has already paid, or agreed to pay, 12,000l. compensation to tenants for the loss of 8,000 head of cattle at 4l. each. In the course of the proceedings at the meeting Mr. John Laird, M.P., called special attention to the claims upon the hunting men of Liverpool, Manchester, Birkenhead, and other towns, who followed the hounds, which were supplied without cost to them by the Cheshire squire. There were, he said, some hundred at least of such men, and if they all did as they should do in a case of this kind, 4,000l. or 5,000l. ought to be realized from this source.

THE SUNDAY OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE following letter is in circulation:—"We have the honour to inform you that it is proposed to present at an early date to the board of directors of the Crystal Palace Company a memorial on the above subject, of which a copy is subjoined. We accordingly beg to request the favour of the return of the fly-sheet (to be torn off), signed in the usual form, which, if filled affirmatively, will be filed as our authority for acting; if negatively, will save further trouble. We remain, sir, your obedient servants,—Charles English, M.A., the Parsonage, Sydenham; Henry Stevens, M.A., Tadrolodge, Sydenham; H. L. Boett, Godstone-house, Sydenham; T. I. Warren, Fair-lawn, Sydenham; Sidney Belsly, the Cedars, Lawrie-park, Sydenham; O. Dorman, the Firs, Lawrie-park, Sydenham; J. M. Clarke, M.A., Christchurch-parsonage, Forest-hill; O. F. Kemp, Forest-hill; F. Chalmers, B.D., the Rectory, Beckenham; D. M'Anally, the Parsonage, Penge; Henry Smith, Penge-lane, Penge; R. Allen, M.A., 4, Belvedere-terrace, Upper Norwood; T. R. Abrahams, Woodlands, Gipsy-hill; W. H. Graham, 3, Woodfield-terrace, Upper Norwood; S. Eardley, B.A., the Parsonage, Streatham-common; George F. Chambers, Lethen-grange, Lawrie-park, Sydenham (honorary secretary)."

"To the Directors of the Crystal Palace Company.—The memorial of the undersigned owners and co-owners of property in the vicinity of the Crystal Palace, sheweth.—That your memorialists, most of whom are season ticket-holders or shareholders in the company, beg respectfully to protest against the opening of the palace, the gardens, or any part thereof to the public on Sundays, for some or all of the following reasons:—1. Because it would involve a violation of the law of God, not indirectly or obscurely expressed in his revealed word. 2. Because by far the greater number of the houses in the neighbourhood are occupied by gentlemen engaged in business on week-days in London by whom rest and quiet on Sundays are much valued; and as experience has shown that the partial openings that have taken place during the last few years have been attended with very prejudicial results in various ways, the systematic congregating together of large masses of people in the approaches to your property Sunday after Sunday, even for a few months in the summer, would, your memorialists are sure, inflict serious annoyance on themselves and their families. 3. Because your memorialists cannot consider that, as managers of a large commercial undertaking, you are justified in continuing to make it available for general demonstrations in favour of the Sunday opening of our national institutions, in the face of the fact that the company's charter was only obtained on a distinct understanding that its property was to be wholly closed on the Lord's Day. 4. Because the Sunday opening would necessitate the employment, directly and indirectly, of large additional numbers of palace attendants, railway engine-drivers, signalmen, guards, porters, cabmen, policemen, &c., whose physical powers are even now severely and unfairly overtaxed by the ordinary weekday and Sunday traffic of the railways belonging to the district in which your property is located. Your memorialists, in conclusion, therefore trust that you will give them an assurance that neither the palace nor the gardens shall again be opened to the public as they were on August 27 and September 3, 1865, in any way or form whatever." The committee will be glad to receive the signatures of any persons entitled to sign who are willing to do so. The area of the district is so large that it is scarcely possible to avoid many omissions in sending out the circulars.

A "GENTLEMAN" BEGGAR.—At the Colchester Police-court, John Pasko, a man apparently of good education, was charged with begging. The prisoner asked the bench to discharge him, and promised not to offend again. He had been, he said, a gentleman, and was formerly a Lieutenant in the Indian army. He had been drinking a little, and was on his way to see his relatives at Needham Market, where he had three relations in the Church. He belonged to one of the best families in England, but he was sorry to say he had been a prodigal son; he had run through thousands in his time. The prisoner was discharged on the understanding that he should at once make his way into Suffolk.

General News.

A GENEVA watch has long been a household word. Besançon, however, promises to rival the city of Calvin at the world's fair in 1865 no less than 91,595 gold and 204,418 silver watches were manufactured in this centre of French Protestantism. Among this immense number several hundreds have been sold at high prices in consequence of the delicate beauty of their workmanship.

The Queen has presented the Rev. Thos. Kay to the church of North Ronalds, Orkney, vice Rev. J. Kellier, translated to the parishes of Walls and Flotta.

It is said that when Prince Couza and his wife left Bucharest they were, to all appearance, as unconcerned as if they were about to take a holiday trip. Both the Prince and Princess had cigars in their mouths when they entered the carriage.

One of the most terribly pathetic stories connected with the sinking of the London has not yet appeared in print. One of the many ladies on board had selected the ship because she was near her confinement. Under the strain of that long agony her child was born, and when the ship went down she was seen holding it above her head, as if striving with true maternal instinct that though all must die her babe should die the last.—*Spectator*.

According to the Prussian custom, prayers were to be offered up on Sunday in Prussia for the Princess Royal, who is shortly expecting an increase to her family.

The Tycoon has sent seven young Japanese to Russia to learn the language and to study naval and military sciences.

The United States' consul at Liverpool has instructed Messrs. O. W. Kellock and Co. to dispose of the ex-confederate ship Shenandoah, which is now lying in the Birkenhead Float. The vessel is exceedingly well equipped.

The Rev. Dr. Thompson, Regius Professor of Greek in the University of Cambridge, will succeed the late Dr. Whewell, as Master of Trinity College.

Mr. O. HOBHOUSE, Q.C., will be appointed to the office of commissioner of charities, vacant by the death of Mr. Campbell.

TUESDAY, the 20th inst., is the day appointed in the diocese of London for the special services in connexion with the cattle plague.

AUTOGRAPHS OF EMINENT PERSONS.

QUEEN ELIZABETH.—She was taught writing by Roger Ascham. Her first copybook is to be seen in the Bodleian Library. She began well and improved rapidly. While princess she came to write a beautiful engraving hand—clear and regular, almost, as an engraving of letters. I turned to another signature after she had been queen a long time—and what was my dismay! Melancholy change! The letters were now thin, spindly, the lines irregular—an ugly old maid's version of her former hand—and the signature was a thing to make one's blood run cold! It was an immense, thin, mountain-like letter—and then another such letter, with a signature worked between, the whole having the appearance of an outline of some wild scaffolding whereupon stood the pale grotesque skeletons of fireworks, as they look before explosion.

MARTIN LUTHER.—The writing was firm and legible, though not very equal nor very straight. This I thought a true version; as he had strong passions, as well as strong reasons for what he did.

SIR THOMAS MORE.—By no means displaying the calm firmness he possessed; the lines crooked, and tumbling down hill.

RUBENS.—Manly, bold—with a careless ease and clearness denoting mastery of hand.

LOUIS BACON.—Very like an elegant modern shorthand. Clear, neat, and regular. The signature involved with broken lines, as if a fly had struggled and died in a spider's web.

VOLTAIRE.—Very clear, regular, steady, and straight; evidently not written rapidly, but with a continuous ease, which might go on writing book after book in just the same way.

OLIVER CROMWELL.—Large, bold, legible, steady, sharp, and straight. The signature made up of halberds and pointed pikes. But another letter of his was not at all of this character. It displayed a perplexed and undecided mind at the time it was written.

FRANÇOIS DE COCQUE.—Not at all in accordance with the strong expression and buffalo features of his face.

CHARLOTTE CORDAY.—Firm, clear, steady, but not without emotion.

OUVER.—Very like the writing of Charlotte Corday, but not so strong and compact.

DANTON.—Wild, daring, without method or care.

GEORGE THE FOURTH.—Not at all the very gentlemanly hand most people would expect—rather a housemaid's.

POPE.—Very bad, small, full of indecision; a very hedgerow of corrections and erasures.

CARDINAL WOLSEY.—A good hand, disturbed only by nervous energy and self-will.

PORRER.—Correct and steady; the reverse of his personal appearance and habits.

SHAKESPEARE.—Very bad hand indeed; confused, crowded, crooked in the lines, scarcely legible.

NAPOLÉON.—Still more illegible. No letters formed at all; the signature a mere hasty "scrammage" with the pen.

SUICIDE OF A CONVICT IN PRISON.—On Saturday night one of the prisoners, a German, named Otto Kellling, in the House of Correction at Nottingham, committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell. He was a convict from the Oldbath-fields Prison, and had been sentenced to two years' imprisonment in a case of stabbing.

A CRUEL ROBBERY.—At the Clerkenwell Police-court, Ellen Clark, 30, a poor-looking woman, who stood in the dock trembling and in tears, was charged with stealing several articles of wearing apparel from her twin sister. This was a distressing case, from the fact of the prosecutrix being the prisoner's sister. She gave her evidence with much reluctance, and it was very evident she regretted the step she had taken in prosecuting her sister, for she was powerfully agitated while giving her evidence, and kept wringing her hands at the sight of her sister in the dock, who kept her face covered with her pocket-handkerchief during the whole of the proceedings, endeavouring to smother her sobs.

The prosecutrix, Mary Eldon, said she was a widow, and lived in Vine-street, Clerkenwell. About six weeks ago her sister came to live with her, and from the moment she had entered the house she had been plundering her. She had taken away everything she possessed in the shape of wearing apparel, she had even gone so far as to steal the pillows and sheets from off the bed, and all, as she (the witness) believed, for the sake of drink. Everything she had, except what she stood upright in, had been taken away.

The prisoner left her, and when she went to find her she found her drinking with a lot of low women. Mr. Barker: What is the value of the things she has taken? Prosecutrix: Five or six pounds, your worship. Mr. Barker (to the prisoner): What have you to say to this? It is a shocking offence to rob your sister as you have done, and especially one who had taken you in to give you shelter. In answer to the magistrate, a constable said that nearly all the property had been recovered. There were fourteen parcels pledged at one shop.

The prisoner: Pray forgive me. Mr. Barker: I shall certainly do no such thing. It is a very bad offence, and you must be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for four calendar months. Both the prisoner and prosecutrix had to be carried out of the court, they were so overcome.

The Court.

It seems the improvements at Frogmore House, the future residence of Prince Christian and Princess Helena, are not to be upon the extensive scale at first contemplated. At, we believe, the suggestion of her Majesty, only a few of the rooms will be altered, in order to adapt them to the requirements of the betrothed royal pair. As an instance, the apartment lately used by the Prince of Wales as a smoking-room will be converted into a sleeping apartment for Prince Christian, and one or two other compartments will be made, the Queen considering that the present principal rooms will be sufficiently large for the contemplated establishment.—*Court Circular*.

On Saturday evening, on the occasion of the anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, Colonel Stodart had the honour to perform at Marlborough House. Their royal highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Princess Mary of Cambridge, Prince and Princess Hohenlohe, and a brilliant assembly of the nobility were present, and witnessed the performance. The programme included the Sphinx and the celebrated Indian basket feat.

Liverpool is to be honoured in June next by a visit from his Royal Highness Prince Alfred, who has signified his willingness to distribute the midsummer prizes on board the school frigate H.M.S. Conway. The precise day on which the ceremony is to take place has not yet been fixed, but it will be towards the end of the month. The Prince and Princess of Wales, with the Hon. Mrs. Stonor and Lieutenant-Colonel Keppel in waiting, attended Divine service at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, on Sunday.

The Communion service was read by the Rev. the Sub-Dean, the Rev. Thomas Holmore, and the Rev. C. T. Holmes-Sumner. The sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Durham from the 4th Psalm and the latter part of the 4th verse.

On Monday evening, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Alfred visited the St. James's Theatre. Their royal highnesses were attended by the Hon. Mrs. Stonor, Lieutenant-Colonel Keppel, and Lieutenant Haig.

As a carriage costume her Majesty the Queen has worn this week a black silk dress with a deep trimming of ermine; over this was an elegantly shaped jacket of black silk, trimmed with royal miniver, the most being of the same description of fur, the bonnet matching the other portion of the attire, which we are pleased to say betrays signs of a departure from the very deep mourning which the Sovereign has of late worn. The outdoor costume worn by their Royal Highnesses Princesses Helena and Louise was yesterday one of the most tasteful seen this season. The dresses are of black silk, with broad white stripes from the waist to the skirt; close fitting jackets of black velvet, trimmed with silk and bugles; black bonnets with ruffles of white tulle, and grave muffs completing the attire. Princess Beatrice's attire was almost a counterpart of her royal sisters, the little princess's dress being composed of a black and white check silk, while her royal highness wore a black hat with a white feather.—*Court Journal*.

FRENCH IMPROVEMENTS IN NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.

NOTWITHSTANDING England and France are on what is termed a perfect peace footing, the arsenals of both countries evince as much activity as though war was imminent. Since the American war our countries across the Atlantic have made wondrous strides in naval architecture, so much so that England, and especially France, have had plenty to do to keep pace with the "go-ahead" Yankees. Sailing ships of the line have been turned into steamers; some have been armour-plated, others mounted with capota towers, &c., while the building of iron vessels has been going on with the utmost rapidity.

On pages 632 and 633 we give a large engraving of the French arsenal at Rochefort. Here a sailing frigate is being transformed into a steam-vessel. This transformation makes it necessary that the vessel should be lengthened, as well as in various points modified. The vessels which are already afloat are only lengthened by the modifications of their extremities; but those which are still on the stocks are lengthened by being sawn right through the middle. One of the two divided parts remains fixed—the other is removed by an ingenious machinery, and with a mathematical precision. The two parts having been separated sufficiently far, the intervening space is filled up with new limbs, in harmony with the whole design of the ship.

Rochefort is the third naval port of France. The naval yard is entered by the Porte de Soleil, a handsome gateway constructed in 1828; on either side of which are lodges for the guard, the agents for the surveillance of the port, and officers of the customs. It comprises building docks for ships of from 60 to 120 guns; sawing, brass and copper mills impelled by steam; a sail-loft, model workshop, a bayne, or prison, capable of accommodating 1,400 convicts; a rope-house, in which cables upwards of 400 yards in length are made, and a naval and military arsenal, biscuit manufactory, and stores for materials of every kind necessary in the fitting out of ships of war. The cables and ship-biscuit made at this port are admitted to be the best in France. The naval hospital without the town comprises nine separate buildings, furnishing accommodation for 1,200 patients. The residence of the naval commandant is a fine building, surrounded by gardens, which are open to the public. Rochefort is the seat of a maritime prefecture, and tribunals of original jurisdiction and commerce; and has schools of naval gunnery, hydrography (2nd class), medicine, drawing, music, &c.; a society of arts and literature, Bible society, public library, &c. It has a few vinegar factories and sugar refineries; but shipbuilding is by far the most important branch of industry, and the shipbuilders of the mercantile port construct handsome vessels for the coasting trade and cod fisheries.

GIVE A MAN A CHANCE.—A wide-awake minister who found his congregation going to sleep one Sunday before he had fairly commenced, suddenly stopped, and exclaimed, "Brethren, this isn't fair; it isn't giving a man half a chance. Wait till I get along, and then if I ain't worth listening to, go to sleep; but don't before I get commenced; give a man a chance."—*American Paper*.

CAUSE OF POISONING FROM THE MILK OF DISEASED COWS.—An occurrence of an alarming character (writes a correspondent) has taken place at Standon Hall, Staffordshire, the residence of Mr. Thomas Woolfe. That gentleman has lost by the rinderpest up to the present time thirty-nine head of cattle, and some have recovered. Among the animals seized were a cow and her calf; the calf died, but the cow survived the attack, and in a few days the milk returned. The dairymaid took some of the milk which she had taken from the cow and showed it to Mrs. Woolfe, who, attracted by the unusually rich appearance of it, put her finger into it and tasted it. No sooner had she done so than she experienced a violent burning sensation in her mouth, which caused her immediately to spit out the remainder. This, however, did not terminate or allay the burning, smarting feeling; on the contrary, it extended rapidly and with increased intensity to the stomach and all over the body to such an extent that a serious illness, with symptoms such as are produced by irritant poisons, supervened, and thorough recovery did not take place for several days. Mr. Woolfe at once ordered that the milk of cows recovered from rinderpest should for some days be given to the dogs and other animals, in order that its effects might be observed before applying it to the ordinary purposes.

In consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Hornsman's Teas are now supplied by the Agents Eightpence per lb. Cheaper. Every Genuine Packet is signed "Hornsman and Co."—*Advertisement*.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[From the *New York Times*]
We receive, in one way and another, two or three hundred communications in each week. Of these we print perhaps a dozen. Necessarily, a great many well-meaning friends are disappointed in not finding their contributions in our columns. A few words of advice to correspondents generally may be useful, although this may be the hundredth repetition of the main points:—

1. Never expect to see your manuscript after sending it to a newspaper. We have distinctly announced, again and again, that we do not preserve rejected articles. Had we done so, the *New York Times* building would long ago have been stocked as closely as a pawnbroker's shelves.

2. Never send a communication without giving your real name and address. More than three-fourths of the matter sent to us goes into the waste basket without being read, because we find upon them no real names. Any designing fellow may write stuff to put a newspaper in a wrong position; hence we insist upon actual personal responsibility, and in important cases we must be sure that the names are bona fide.

3. Don't write long essays. Give us new ideas; give us short, practical, common-sense (and brief) notes upon the vital questions of the hour. Mind the hint to be brief—very brief. Life is short; newspapers are circumscribed; space is valuable; words are many, and writers are over-garrulous. If you are convinced that you can add an idea or an item that will benefit or enlighten your fellow-men, say it, but say it in the briefest possible space. Don't "take my pen in hand and inform you that these few lines come hoping that you are well," &c. Think carefully over what you have to say, reduce your comments to the lowest possible fraction, express that by the most convenient logarithm, and it may be that your little gem will find a place in the omnium gatherum of a great newspaper.

4. Again we repeat, don't ask us to return or preserve manuscripts. Those of length that forbid copying are too long for printing. The first and easiest sin of an amateur is to be prolix. We have a clear recollection of the time when we could not for our lives have put these few hints in less than three columns. Take the advice of an old stager. The editor who unfolds a manuscript of half a dozen pages inwardly groans at the waste of words, glances at the beginning and the ending, and rejects nine in ten of such papers, mainly because he cannot or will not wade through them. Long letters and communications are very often published, but they are almost inevitably written by well-known friends in whom the editor has confidence.

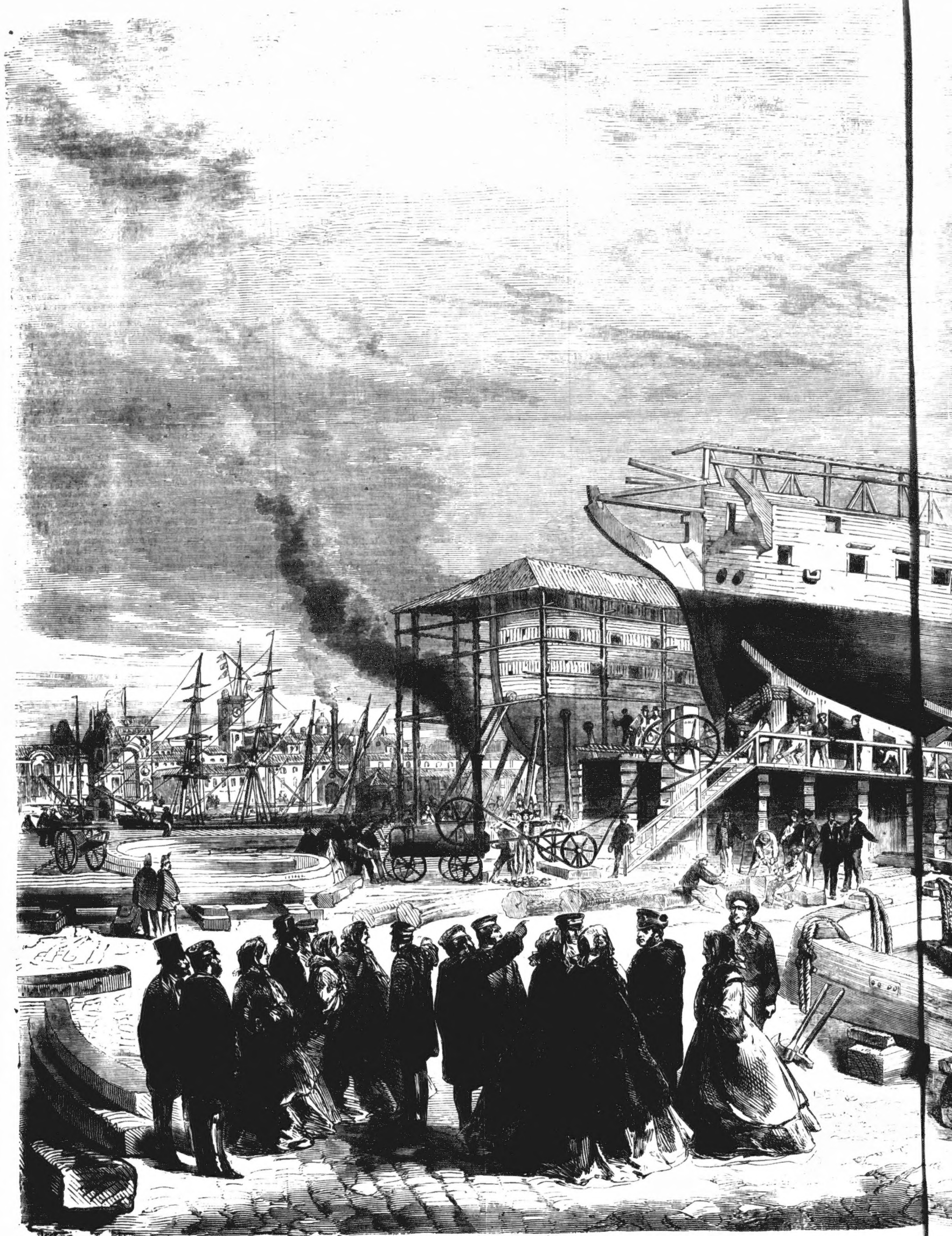
5. We are quite willing to encourage those who have any good things to say. Therefore we ask them to heed this bit of advice. If they write, let the actual name and address accompany each item. A moment's thought ought to convince the most careless that it is not within reason that an editor should give the powerful endorsement of his paper and himself to matter which the writer is afraid or ashamed to own. And once more, remember that we have not time to return or preserve manuscripts; we cannot do it. Also remember that while you are crystallizing into words the grand ideas of which you are possessed, a thousand more may be doing the same thing; that the thousand and one valuable contributions may reach us all in a heap; that, in spite of our enlargement, we cannot by any possibility print more than a tenth of the ten hundred; that you have nine chances in ten of being one of the rejected. But don't give it up so; send us, very briefly, such ideas as may occur to you, and we will do our utmost to give you voice in our columns. But don't forget to give your name (in confidence, of course), and don't expect us to preserve manuscripts.

AN AMERICAN IRON-CLAD.

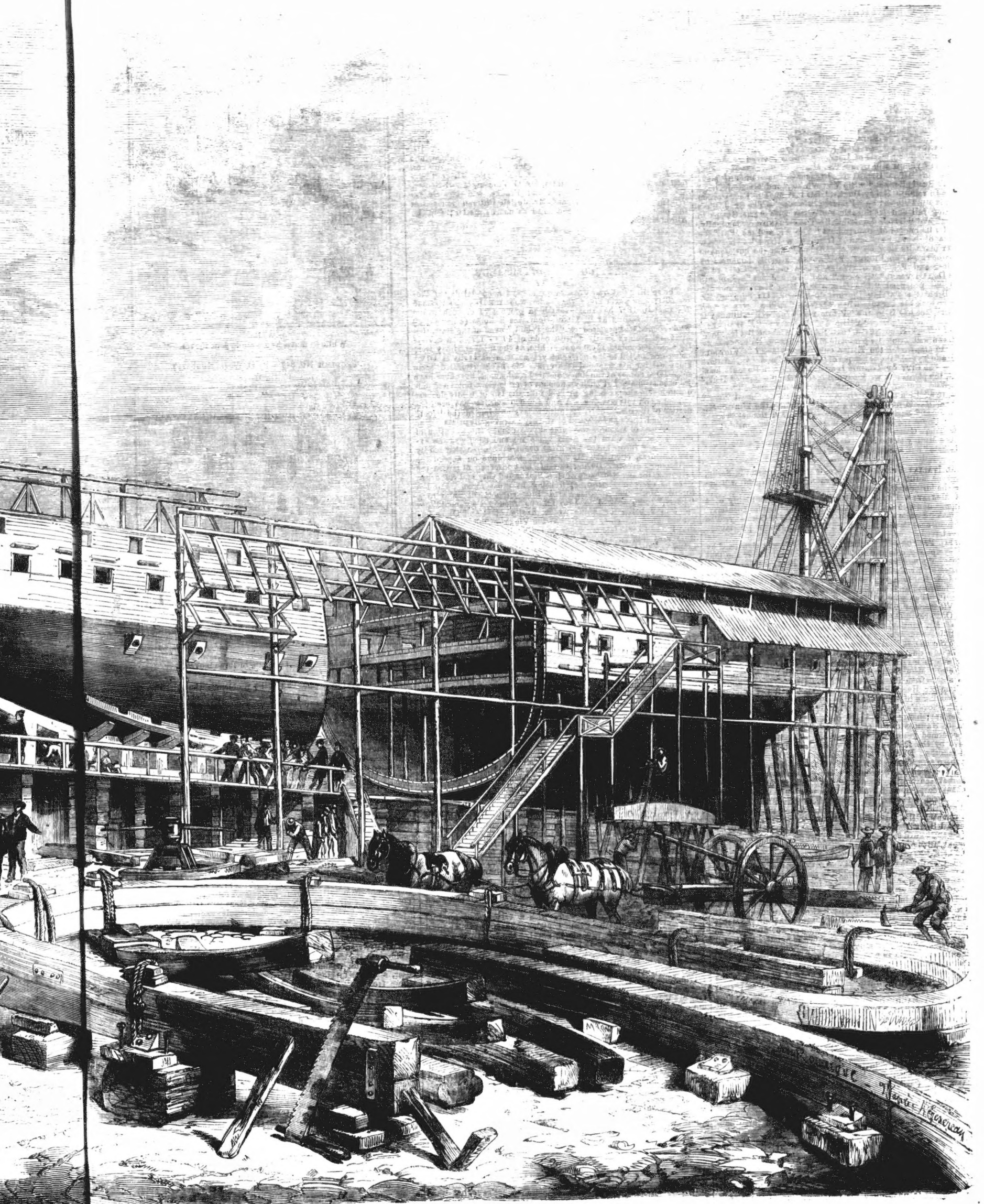
The following is an extract from a private letter:—"A great many vessels enter the harbour at Rio, not only merchantmen but men-of-war, and lately we have had the American Vanderbilt, Tuscarora, and Monadnock. The latter is a monitor or iron-clad, and as she is the most singular vessel of the kind I have seen, I determined to go and have a good look at her. I went on the 10th of January, and on my arrival I was told they were under sailing orders, and no one could be admitted. I, however, sent my card to the commanding officer, and he was kind enough to allow me not only to go on board, but called an officer to explain matters to me. The hull of the vessel is only 18 inches out of the water. Just above the deck there are some bars and chains to keep it a little private, for were it not for them any one could walk off a common shore boat into her. When cleared for action, the bars and chains, the white tops of the turrets, the masts, &c., the boats, and the two ventilators before the funnel are all taken away, and the three hatches are put down. The deck is covered with 3-in. iron plates over 36 in. of wood. There are two guns in each turret, weighing 43,000 lb. each. A full charge of powder is 60 lb., the second charge 50 lb., the third 35 lb. The guns are 4 ft. in diameter, 15 in. bore, and 20 in. thick at the breech. A boy goes in to clean them, but the day I went the boy happened to be out of the way, and so they told me a man went in, and I can only say that inside the guns there looked quite room enough for a man, and to spare. The turrets are 10 ft. in diameter, and the total weight of turret, two guns, and pilot-house is 250 tons. To get air they have four engines to pump air into the vessel, and two to pump it out, and under each of the officers' private cabins, as well as other places, there is a ventilator in the floor, similar to what you see in a stove, and certainly there appeared to be plenty of air when I was on board. The way light is admitted below is through holes about as large as to admit a small cannon-ball; but in action these must have thick iron covers, and are screwed fast below, so they must then burn candles or lamps. The number of men is 160, and fifteen officers. The cost of the ship was \$381,668. I forgot to mention, the shot weigh about 400 lb., and when fired they can be seen clearly along their whole course, which is very steady, not fast. Supposing they were boarded they have three ways of clearing the decks—1st, by firing one of the guns without shot, for the force of the powder is so great that anything on deck would be blown off by it, even if not directed towards the object; 2nd, hand grenades, and they have an instrument for pushing them through the holes I spoke of as those by which they obtain light, and they can place these wherever they like; 3rd, rifles, which of course can be used from the inside of the turret. This vessel where it had been hit was indented much in the way as a cricket ball would indent a deal board; but although apparently so secure, I should not like either to pass any of my life on board or even to go into action with her. At Charleston one went down over a torpedo, and it went down in fifteen seconds, and all hands were lost but two. A wave came against the iron door of the hatchway and closed it, squeezing three men to death in falling. They lost another, I believe, from a similar cause before Fort Monroe. After one of them went down they sent down a diving-bell to get the bodies, &c., and they found the torpedo had burst just under the officers' cabin while they were at supper, and I was told they must all have perished instantaneously."

A RETURN FROM ROME.—The *Record* announces the return of Mr. Hemans, son of the poetess, from the communion of the Church of Rome.

VERY COMFORTABLE.—Persons can now have teeth to replace those lost, so that they cannot perceive any difference. Mr. Edward A. Jones, the Dentist, of 130, Strand, and 55, Cornmarket-terrace, Hyde-park, has just exhibited a new system, with a soft elastic gum, so that the roots and loose teeth can be covered and protected. No springs are used and there is no pain.—*Advertisement*.



FRENCH IMPROVEMENTS IN NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.—L'ESTRÉE



ARCHITECTURE.—STRENGTHENING A FRIGATE IN THE ARSENAL OF ROCHEFORT. (See page 631.)

Theatricals, Music, etc.

THE THEATRES.—Nearly the whole of these establishments are bringing or have just brought their Christmas entertainments to a close; and, pending the new Easter productions, few novelties worth recording are now brought forward. During the past two weeks the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the royal family have paid repeated visits to different theatres. At **DRURY LANE** Mr Phelps has appeared in "King Lear" and "The Merchant of Venice" in both of which he has been well supported by Mrs. Herman Vezin. The pantomime of "King Pippin" is still running.—The **HAYMARKET** has announced its last nights of "Orpheus in the Haymarket." "The Overland Route" is the other attraction.—The **PRINCESS'S** brings "It is Never Too Late to Mend" to a close this evening (Saturday), after running nearly 150 nights. "The Streets of London" will be revived on Monday next.—The **LYCEUM** still runs "The Master of Ravenswood," after the farce of "The Illustrious Stranger.—The **ADOLPH** plays "Pipkin's Rustic Retreat," "Bip Van Winkle," and "Behind Time."—At the **OLYMPIC** "Henry Dunbar" has lost none of its attraction yet. It is still followed by "Princess Primrose"—The **ST. JAMES'S** is drawing full and fashionable audiences with "She Stoops to Conquer," and "Love's Labyrinth"—The **STRAEND** opens nightly, having for its budget of amusements "The Fly and the Web," the burlesque of "Ivanhoe," and "Lending a Hand"—The **NEW RYALTY** plays its new opera of "Sylvia," and the burlesque of "Prometheus"—The **PRINCE OF WALES'S**, recently honoured by the Prince and Princess of Wales, has a capital bill of fare in "Little Don Giovanni," "Society," and "John Jones"—**SADLER'S WELLS** has produced "The Gamester," Miss Marriott and Mr. James Bennett sustaining the principal parts. On Tuesday, Mr. Johnstone took his benefit, when "Love's Sacrifice" was played. The after-piece has been the "Prisoner of War"—The **SURREY** is doing excellent business with Miss Avonja Jones in "East Lynne," an act of "Black-Eyed Susan," and "A Night at the Bal Masque."—**ASTLEY'S** will bring its pantomime to a close on Saturday next, in order to prepare for the Easter entertainments.—The **VICTORIA** has "Jessie Tyrol," the burlesque of "Mazepa," and "A Christmas Story."—The **CITY OF LONDON** is as usual strong in its sensational element, the pieces this week having been "Double-Handed Dick," "The Wild Hunter," and "Kathleen Mavourneen"—The **BRITANNIA**, in addition to "The Oastway" and "The Oast Ward," has an entertainment introducing Colonel Stodare, the Wizard, Mr. J. G. Forde and Miss Emma Kerridge.—The **PAVILION** has brought forward "Uncle the Last of the Mohicans," with horsemanship; also "Uncle Tom's Cabin"—The **EFFINGHAM** produces "The Jewess," and "The Mutiny at the Nora"—The **ALEXANDRA** presents "The Blue Jackets" and a ballet to its patrons.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—Mr Gye, who is at present in Berlin, has engaged Mlle. Orgeri for five years. Mlle. Orgeri will appear in the forthcoming season.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Report speaks most highly of a new prima donna, to appear here, the name of Louise Lichtmay, who is making quite a sensation in various parts of Germany. The opera commences its season on April 7th. A powerful programme has been issued.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The concert on Saturday was signalled by a new symphony, composed by Mr Arthur Sullivan, by the first appearance of a new violin player (Herr Carl Rose), and by the first appearance of Mr. Santley since his return from Italy. The symphony of Mr. Sullivan was listened to throughout with the greatest possible interest; and we may say at once that its success was triumphant. The new violinist, Herr Carl Rose, is good. He played *Vieuxtemps* "Ballade et Polonaise" and the *Adagio* from Spohr's Concerto in G (No. 11). In both winning loud and general applause. Mr. Santley, who had an extraordinary reception, sang the recitative and aria, "All' invito genovese," from Rossini's *Maometto Secondo*, M. Gounod's song "The Valley," and with Miss Edmonds the duet from *Figaro*, "Crudel perche, finora." Mr. Santley was in magnificent voice, and gave immense effect to all three pieces. Miss Edmonds—who was substituted for Madame Parepa, absent from illness—sang "Should he upbraid," and the ballad from Mr. Henry Smart's *Bertha*, "Oh! is it not a pleasant thing," creating a highly favourable impression in both. The band played Beethoven's overture to *Fidelio* (in E, No. 4), and Weber's *Subel* overture; both splendid performances.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—Haydn's oratorio, "The Creation," performed yesterday evening week, was rendered especially attractive by the first appearance of Mr. Santley in London for several months. During his absence the great English baritone had not been forgotten by the public that first fostered him into fame. It was well known that Mr. Santley had accepted an engagement at the Grand Theatre of La Scala in Milan, and his triumphant reception on his debut there was duly transmitted to London. Soon, however, there came from Milan another story. The ill-conditioned state of the Scala management, the inefficiency of the company, the intrigues of the artists, always opposed to foreigners, left Mr. Santley no alternative but to throw up his engagement and return to England. That the treatment Mr. Santley received at Milan was well known and understood in London, and resented here, was proved by the singularly marked and uproarious welcome that greeted him in Exeter Hall on the above night. Such a reception, indeed, was enough to assure him that all England was with him, and to repay him for every disappointment abroad. Mr. Santley was in splendid voice, and never sang with greater freedom or in grander style. The air "Now heaven in fullest glory shone" was the crowning feat of the whole performance, and indeed finer singing of that magnificent air we never heard. "Rolling in foaming billows" is perhaps not altogether so conformable to Mr. Santley's style and method, but still it was nobly delivered, and created a powerful impression. Miss Edmonds gave the soprano music in a thoroughly artistic manner and with rare charm of voice. Mr. W. H. Cummings sang the tenor music extremely well, and particularly entitled himself to praise in the melodious air "In native worth." The choruses were as perfect as ever.

MR ALBERTO LAURENCE is engaged to perform the part of Nelusko, in "L'Africaine," at the Victor Emmanuel Theatre, Turin. His engagement commences at Easter.

MADAME RUDERSDORFF, who is at present fulfilling engagements in Holland, has had the honour of being invited to a private audience by her Majesty the Queen at her palace at the Hague.

OFFENBACH is very busy just now—he is writing a new grand opera, called "Robinson Crusoe," which will be produced at the Opera Comique, Paris, this summer; also "Parisian Life," an opera in five acts, for the Palais Royal. He is, besides, writing music for "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme" of Moliere, for the Porte St. Martin, which will appear in October next. He is also working at a new opera buffa for the Variety Theatre, and three one-act operettas.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND FESTIVAL.—The twenty-first annual festival of this institution will be celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Wednesday, March 28th. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor will be the president on this occasion.

MR. SHERRIDAN KNOWLES—A posthumous play by this distinguished dramatist is underlined for representation at the Strand Theatre, shortly after Easter. We understand that this work, which has never been hitherto published or performed in any shape, was the last composition of Mr. Knowles, and that it is a

romantic drama, in two acts, written throughout in blank verse, and in its author's very best manner.

"MRS. BROWN" AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL.—Mr. Arthur Skelchley commenced his new season at the Egyptian Hall on Monday last, introducing that established favourite of the public, "Mrs. Brown" with entirely new vocal, colloquial, and pictorial illustrations.

MR. HENRY CORRI'S BENEFIT.—This charitable event, as well as a well-merited compliment to an esteemed member of the English Opera Company, now suffering from severe illness, took place at Covent Garden Theatre, on Wednesday morning last. The performances consisted of a concert, a scene from "The Willow Copse," and the "Ticket-of-Leave Man." The following artists, together with the band and chorus, gave their valuable and gratuitous services:—Miss Louisa Pyne, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, and Madame Parepa, Madame Weiss, Miss Susan Pyne, Miss Whytock, Miss Emma Adams, and Madame Arabella Goldard, Miss Hughes, Miss Lydia Foote, Mrs. Stephens, Miss Raynham, and Mrs. Alfred Mellon; Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. Alberto Laurence, Mr. J. G. Patey, and Herr Strauss, Mr. J. L. Toole, Mr. Paul Bedford, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Atkins, Mr. G. Vincent, Mr. R. Soutar, Mr. H. Cooper, Messrs. Bologna and Franks, and Mr. Horace Wigan. Mr. Charles Coote and Mr. Josiah Pittman presided at the pianoforte; Mr. Smythson acted as chorus master; and Mr. Alfred Mellon conducted.

Sporting.

BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.

The setting day on a great race is always a special day at Tattersall's; but never since the Duke won the Liverpool Grand National in 1837 has that event been productive of such grand and signal results as in 1866. Here was a horse (Salamander) pook-pooked and despised by "the Talent," even at the start, that came and won as he liked, with odds of 40 to 1, and in several instances ten points more against him, as the field of thirty were being marshalled to the post, and yet he won as easily as Gladstone carries his financial measures. We have witnessed some sensational scenes at the time-honoured rendezvous, but never have we been spectators of such an amount of crisp bank notes and unquestionable checks being pitched into the lap of a steeplechase winner as on this occasion. A cool £30,000 sterling has been the portion of the owner of Salamander, to say nothing of the "loot" which his friends have sacked at equally extravagant prices. The arrangement of accounts was sufficient to occupy the attention of members almost until the room broke up, and such was the excitement and furor ament the great event at Aintree that hardly any business, comparatively speaking, was done on any of the forthcoming events. During certain short intervals of repose the favourites for the Northamptonshire Stakes and Oily and Suburban were on everybody's lips, each being in great force. For the former Mail Train commanded the support of a strong "party," who took 4 to 1 to all the money they could get on, 7 to 2 being the highest offer finally. Out and Outer, however, proved upon his early prestige at the Victoria Club, inasmuch as that 100 to 15 was laid ten times and although a semblance of hostility sent him subsequently to 7 to 1 (taken to 100), we may safely say that the demonstration was not made by any of the Woodpeckers "party." It was a nice point between Student and Lord Lyon for the Two Thousand, but on examination it was found that Student had the call; still there were frequent offers to take 3 to 1 about either Mr. Merry's colt or Lord Lyon. It is certain that the public have a strong fancy for both, or else they would not offer to lay 1,000 to 800 on the pair, which they did. The remainder of the quotations will be found fully detailed below:—

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.—7 to 2 agst Mr. W. Day's Mail Train, 5 yrs, 7st 12lb, (off to 4 to 1); 100 to 8 agst Mr. F. Pryor's Raglan, 6 yrs, 8st (off); 14 to 1 agst Mr. W. S. Cartwright's Scamander, 6 yrs, 8st 9lb (Q).

OILY AND SUBURBAN.—7 to 1 agst Mr. W. Day's Out and Outer, 4 yrs, 7st 5lb (Q); 100 to 6 agst Mr. A. Taylor's Pepper's Ghost 4 yrs, 8st 4lb (Q); 15 to 1 agst Lord Westmoreland's Brahms, 4 yrs, 7st (to £35).

CHESTER CUP.—12 to 1 agst Mr. H. May's Gong 3 yrs, 5st 12lb (Q); 20 to 1 agst Mr. J. Scott's Baragash, 5 yrs, 8st 7lb (Q); 33 to 1 agst Mr. W. Day's Mail Train, 5 yrs, 8st 5lb (Q).

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—5 to 2 agst Mr. Merry's Student (off, 8 to 1 wanted); 5 to 2 agst Mr. R. Sutton's Lord Lyon (off, 8 to 1 wanted).

THE DURET.—6 to 1 agst Duke of Beaufort's Rustle (off); 15 to 2 agst Mr. R. Sutton's Lord Lyon (t to £100); 10 to 1 agst Mr. Merry's Student (t to £50); 18 to 1 agst Lord St. Vincent's Redan (t to £25); 1,000 to 20 agst Mr. G. Bryan's Laneret (t and wanted).

A BURNING OIL WELL.—Fifteen miles below Franklin, in Western Pennsylvania, an oil-well has been accidentally set on fire, and the flame is said to defy all attempts to extinguish it. The *Meadville Republic* gives the following account of the extraordinary spectacle presented:—"Imagine a space, perhaps forty feet square, sending up a solid sheet of flame nearly sixty feet in height. It lights up the country for miles around, so that one can see to read a newspaper at a distance of four or five miles. The heat of the fire has started vegetation to growing, and grass can be plucked there as green as that found in summer time. The well is owned by parties at Rochester, and was struck four years ago. It commenced flowing oil and water with a very strong force of gas, and the owners were confident they had a good well, but two weeks ago, last night, the men going to supper, the well took fire—it is supposed from the engine—and has been burning ever since. The flame, when first discovered, was coming out of the driving pipe, and was not more than three or four feet in diameter; but, after burning two or three days, the driving pipe was melted off two or three feet, and thus allowing the gas and oil to separate before reaching the top, spread over a surface of thirty or forty feet square. It has burned ever since without cessation. Sometimes the flames will reach to a height of 100 feet, and livening the trees which crown the summits of the surrounding hills, and the reflections against the sky produce an effect which no pen can describe or pencil do justice to."

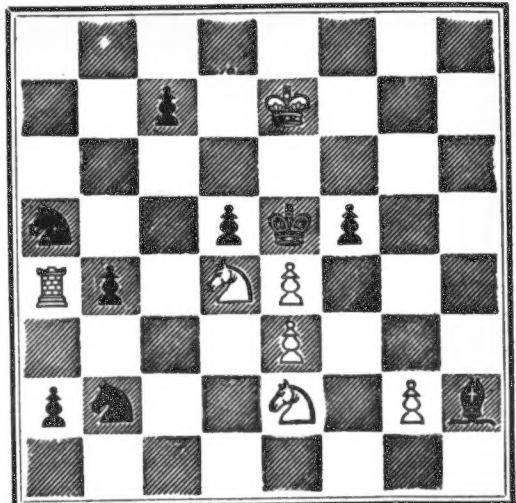
A FURIOUS FUR.—Alexander Montgomery, Esq., who resides near Antrim, has a ewe thirteen years old, which has produced twenty-four lambs during the last twelve years. She reared them all, and has not had a tooth in her head for the last seven years.—*Northern Whig*

AN AMBASSADOR FROM THE DEVIL.—On a recent Sunday, a clergyman in the north was addressing his hearers with some warmth regarding the great power which the devil exercises over the minds of men generally, and just as he had come to a climax on this point, a bewilderer dog, which had entered the church in search of his master, uttered a loud bark, when, with a flash in his eye, and giving the Bible board a tremendous thump, the reverend gentleman exclaimed, "Ah! yes, my friends, the foul fiend is so bent on recruiting his ranks that he has sent that dog in here to-day to interrupt my speaking, and carry away your minds."—*John O'Grady's Journal*

A FORTUNATE MINER.—A San Francisco paper says that "an honest miner" from California shouldered his knapsack one day and struck out for Idaho. He arrived there last spring and took up a quartz claim. A few days ago he sold his claim for 800,000 dollars (£170,000) in gold coin of the realm.

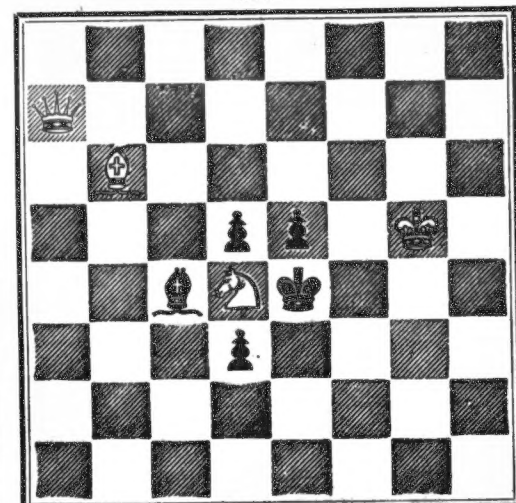
Chess.

PROBLEM No. 342.—By A. D. L. Black.



White to move, and mate in four moves.

PROBLEM No. 343.—By C. W. (of Sunbury). Black.



White to move, and mate in three moves.

W. F. DUNSTON.—Thanks for the problems: they shall be reported upon as early as practicable. We shall feel obliged, however, if you will, in future, submit your problems on diagrams.

A. BARKER.—1. Your suggested amendment will not answer if Black play 2. B to K Kt square, threatening check next move.

J. JACQUES. of Hatton Garden.

E. F.—Having taken up your adversary's Queen, you are bound to the move. The position is, nevertheless, drawn.

H. R.—We do not know whether a copy of the work to which you refer can be obtained in England. Possibly, a copy can be seen at the British Museum. 2. Apply to Messrs. Williams and Norgate, of Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.

BEFPO.—The solution of Problem No. 212, is

- | White. | Black. |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Q to K B 4 (ch) | 1. K moves |
| 2. Q to K 4 (ch) | 2. Kt |
| 3. Q to Q 2 (ch) | 3. K takes Kt |
| 4. Kt mates | |

BAPTISM OF A GIPSY PRINCESS.—On Sunday, at St. George's Church, Hulme, the infant princess of the King and Queen of the Gipsies was baptised by the Rev. W. Whitelegg, M.A., rector. The name given to the infant princess was Siberia Pomona, the sponsors being Mr. W. Smith and Miss Elizabeth Dalton, of Cornbrook. The ceremony created considerable excitement, people being anxious to catch a glimpse of the royal party. The gipsies have been for some time encamped at Fomona-garden, Hulme.—*Manchester Courier*

WIFE BEATING.—At the Southwark Police-court, Samuel Easton, an elderly man, was brought up in custody of Police-constable 95 M, charged with committing a violent assault on his wife. The latter, a decent-looking female, with both eyes blackened, and whose face otherwise exhibited marks of violence, said that on Saturday night the prisoner came home drunk and commenced abusing her. It was late, and she was in the act of getting into bed, when he seized her by the hair of the head and pulled her out on to the floor. He then kicked and beat her over the head, causing the bruises which his worship could see. Her cries brought her daughter to her assistance, when a constable was called in, and he was given into custody. The magistrate asked how long she had been married to him? She replied that they had been married nearly thirty years. They had three children living with them, who, with her, could gain their livelihood without her husband's aid. In fact, he had not brought her a farthing or assisted her in any way for some years. The prisoner admitted that, and the reason for it was he broke his leg and his ankle four years ago, and since then he had not been able to stand at his work. The magistrate told him he managed to get drunk and beat the woman whom he was bound to protect, and who worked for him. He was a cowardly fellow, and deserved severe punishment. The wife here interposed, and said she did not wish him to be punished if he would keep sober for the future. Police-constable 95 M said he was on duty in Weston-street about one on Sunday morning, when he heard cries of "Murder." He proceeded to the house from whence the noise came, and saw the prisoner take hold of his wife's hair with one hand and beat her on the face with his clenched fist. He pulled him off, and took him into custody. The prisoner here said he was extremely sorry, and he would never touch intoxicating liquors again. The magistrate sentenced him to six weeks' hard labour in Wandsworth House of Correction.

Law and Police.

POLICE COURTS

MANSION HOUSE.

ASSAULT BY A SOLDIER "UNDER THE INFLUENCE."—A smart young fellow, a private in the Scotch Fusilier Guards, named Thomas O'Hara, was brought before Mr. Alderman Finnis charged with the following outrage:—Henry Trinder, a City police-constable, stated that on the previous evening, about eight o'clock, he was on duty in Lower Thames-street, when he saw the prisoner and another soldier carrying a basket of linen between them, and just as he was about to pass him, the prisoner struck him a tremendous blow on the mouth. The effect of the blow was to knock out one of his teeth, and dash him against the shutters of a shop, and he bled profusely. The prisoner did this without the slightest provocation, and not a word passed between them before the blow was struck. Alderman Finnis asked if the prisoner was drunk. The constable replied that he could not say he was drunk, but he was "under the influence." The prisoner, in an impudent tone, asked the constable what he meant by "under the influence?" He must have been either drunk or sober. (A laugh.) The prisoner, when called upon for an explanation of his extraordinary conduct, replied in a careless tone that he knew nothing about it. He said he had never assaulted the constable, and he believed he was drunk himself and had run against a lamp post. (A laugh.) Alderman Finnis told the prisoner his conduct had been very bad, and his defence made it worse. He should, therefore, not inflict a fine, but should sentence him to seven days' hard labour. The prisoner, impudently: Thank you, my lord; cannot you send the police-constable along with me? The prisoner then took off his belt, and appeared inclined to be violent, but he seemed to think better of it, and threw his belt to the sergeant, exclaiming, "Take care of that, sergeant; I am a prisoner now!" and he was then removed to the lock-up.

OLEBKENWELL.

DARING SHOP ROBBERY.—James Ferguson, 26, and William Brown, 24, two dirty-looking fellows, convicted thieves, were charged before Mr. Barker with stealing a leg of pork, value about 10s. The prisoners were seen by Herbert Stammers, police-sergeant 4 N, in Upper-street, Islington, carrying a bag, and suspecting them, he followed them, and asked Brown what he had got in the bag. He replied, "meat." Witness asked him where he got it, and he said he did not know. The sergeant then took Brown into custody upon suspicion of having stolen the leg of pork. The other prisoner he gave into the custody of Olack, a local constable. On the way to the station, the prisoner Brown became very violent, and kicked the sergeant and threw him on his back, and while in the ground attempted to kick him in a delicate part. As he was taking the prisoner to the station showers of granite were hurled at him (the sergeant) by the prisoners' companions. He was conveyed to the police-station with some difficulty. Mr. James Denson, of Church-grove, said the pork belonged to his brother-in-law, who kept a large pie-shop in Lower-road, Islington. It was missed about half-past eight in the evening. He saw it safe and hanging up in the shop window about five o'clock. It weighed about twenty pounds, and was worth about 10s. When asked by the magistrate what answer they had to the charge, one of the prisoners said he was guilty, and the other that he knew nothing about it, and that the sergeant had stated was false. He would rather be tried by a jury. Mr. Barker asked if the prisoners were known. Sergeant Stammers said he believed Lockyer, the officer of the House of Correction, Colbath Fields, knew them both. Mr. Barker committed them both for trial at the Middlesex Sessions, which commences on Monday next, and instructed the sergeant to allow Lockyer to see the prisoners, and if they had been previously convicted to produce evidence of the convictions at the trial.

A DESPERATE FEMALE FUGITIVE.—Catherine Lockyer, 38, alias Lane, of Bower Cottage, Finchley, was charged with a very savage assault upon Ann Harrison, a "casual" in the Crownlands-road, St. Pancras. Ann Harrison, a poor-looking woman, whose face had been subjected to great violence, both her eyes being nearly closed and very black, and her face cut about, said she was a "casual" at the workhouse, and on Saturday night, being very cold, she went into the taproom of the Elephant, Crowdsdale road, to warm herself, when the prisoner, who was drunk, entered into conversation with her, and asked her what she was, and she said a casual. Prisoner said she was never a casual, and had never been in a workhouse. Prosecutrix replied that when people got reduced in circumstances they were compelled to go into the workhouse. Prisoner then wished to know whom she was talking to, and struck her in the face, and when they got outside the public-house she assaulted her in a dreadful manner, by punching her about the eyes and tearing her hair (the witness produced a large quantity of hair, which she said the prisoner had torn from her head); she also kicked her about the legs. Thomas, 165 Y, said the last witness complained to him about the prisoner's ill-usage, and said she wished to give her into custody. He did not see the row. The prisoner was drunk, and the prosecutrix sober. A gentleman came to the station and signed the charge-sheet, but he was not then present. In answer to the charge, the prisoner said the prosecutrix called her a lot of bad names, and took hold of her hair and tore it out by the roots. She never said a word to her before she (the prosecutrix) assaulted her. Mr. Barker asked if anything was known of the prisoner. David Older, police-sergeant, 16 Y, said he had known her for about twelve years. She was a prostitute in Little Clarendon-street, and a terror to the neighbourhood. She could fight like a man, and when drunk was a perfect savage. On one occasion she seconded a man in a fight, and he so maltreated his opponent that he was laid up for six weeks. She had been frequently charged at this court for assaults, and sent to prison. Mr. Barker said the prisoner would have to pay 50s., or go to prison for two months. The money was not paid, and the defendant was sent to prison.

MARLBOROUGH STREET.

CHARGE OF FRAUD.—Charles Agreston, a young man, having the aliases of Thompson, Olifton, &c., was charged before Mr. Tyrwhitt with obtaining by false pretences the sum of 10s. from Mr. Reginald York, of No. 45, St. James's-place, St. James's-street. Mr. York said that on the 12th February he left the St. James's Club, and when he got to his door some one said, "Well, old fellow, I must offer you a thousand apologies for stopping you, but I want to speak to you." On turning round he saw the prisoner, who told him a long story to the effect that he was a gentleman, and had been an officer in an Hussar regiment, and that, like many other young men, he had kept a young woman, led a dissipated life, and gone "down the hill." The climax of the story was that he had forged his father's name to a bill for £450. He said Cox and Co., the army agents, knew all about him and would speak of him, and on his asking for some money he gave the prisoner 10s., believing his story. The prisoner again saw him, and on telling him that he was going to see Mr. Woodgate, one of the Oxford boat, at Richmond, he gave him some clothes to assist him in going. The prisoner also told him that his father kept a hall in Sussex, and his brother a villa at Venice; but from inquiries he (Mr. York) had made he found that he was not known at Cox's, or at the War-office; and no such person of that name had a hall in Sussex, and instead of his brother being at Venice, he was in prison for an omnibus robbery. He had also ascertained that the prisoner had so far ingratiated himself with a gentleman, a member of a club, as to be invited by that gentleman to dine at the club. Mr. Tyrwhitt remanded the prisoner.

THE MARQUIS TOWNSEND AND THE BEGGARS.—Eliza Card was charged, before Mr. Tyrwhitt, with begging of the Marquis Townsend. The Marquis Townsend said about nine o'clock on Sunday night the prisoner begged of him in Dover-street, stating she was without a lodging or the means of paying for one. As the prisoner had a child with her, he told her the best thing she could do was to apply at the Mount-street Workhouse. The prisoner said she would do so, and left him. He watched her, and noticed she went in a contrary direction. While looking for a constable he lost sight of the prisoner, but shortly afterwards seeing her come out of a public-house he gave her into custody. He made a little present to the child, who was taken to the workhouse. The prisoner said she was in real distress, and had lately lost all her furniture. The Marquis Townsend said he had a distinct recollection of having seen the prisoner begging about for some time. Mr. Tyrwhitt said he should commit the prisoner for a week; and, with respect to the child, would see if he could get it admitted into an industrial school.

MARYLEBONE.

EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF FRAUD.—A curious-looking man, who gave the name of Solomon Sterne, was charged with fraud under the following extraordinary circumstances:—Charles Russell Hurditch said: I am secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, held in the Bedford Rooms, Tottenham-street, Edgeware-road. On Thursday evening last we held our usual meeting, when the prisoner came in, and, addressing me, said he was a converted rabbi, and in consequence had been expelled from the synagogue. He said he had been cast out from his friends and home in Germany. He also said he had received a great amount of ill-treatment, and been sent away without any means. In consequence of this he had, he said, to part with his clothes and watch to come to England. He stated that he landed at Southampton on Saturday week, in a most destitute condition, and that he there disposed of a silk pocket-handkerchief for a shilling to provide food with. Since then he had been walking about without any means of getting lodging or victuals. He told me he could work at fancy mat making, and he been seeking for orders and had obtained some, and was then only waiting for means to execute them by finding materials. In consequence of this, and his saying he was hungry and had no lodging to go to, and no change of linen, I took him home with me and gave him a dinner. I then asked him how much would start him, and he said about 17s. or 18s. I gave him a sovereign, when he said, "No, no; not so much." I told him to take it. He did so, and said he would return it when he had finished his mats. Mr. Yardley: What was it that induced you to part with your money? Prosecutrix: On his saying that he was a converted rabbi and cast adrift by his friends. From what I have heard—Mr. Yardley: I can't hear what you have heard, as that would not be evidence unless said in the presence of the prisoner. Sergeant Isaacson, 2 D, said he had lived at his present address in Back Church-lane, Whitechapel, for the past six months. Mr. Hurditch continued: He called again and I let him have 5s. more for lodging, as he said he wanted to get a little room to himself. He afterwards came again and spoke about baptism, which excited my suspicion. Yesterday he called again, and said he had completed the mats, and would receive two guineas for them, and which he said he would require the use of again, as he had an order which would bring him in several guineas. He asked me for a further loan, which I told him I had not got, and to convince him I was speaking the truth I showed him my empty purse. The prisoner exclaimed that his head was against the wall, as I was his only friend. I told him I would go to a friend to see if I could get what money he required, at the same time asking him (prisoner) where he lived. He said in John-street, and as I passed the door I said I should like to see the mats. Prisoner said, "No, don't go in, as the mats are gone into the City." My suspicions being now fully aroused, I managed to walk him into the station. Prisoner wished to make a statement, but after being cautioned he declined going on. Mr. Yardley remanded him till Monday next.

WORSHIP STREET.

SINGULAR ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.—Louisa Fletcher, aged 17, describing herself as a tailor's, was charged with attempting to poison herself. She lived with her parents in Parrot-row, Cambridge-heath, and on Saturday evening knocked at the door of Mrs. Marie Downing, a lodger, who upon opening it found her crying. She asked her what was the matter with her, and the prisoner said she could not tell. The prisoner appeared to be stupefied, and she led her into her room, placed her in a chair, and then saw a bottle in her hand labelled "poison," which she snatched from her. The bottle was quite empty, and as the prisoner acknowledged having swallowed its contents, which were laudanum, Mr. Downing, who then came home, mixed a strong mustard emetic and forced it down the prisoner's throat while his wife held her hands. Mr. Lane, a surgeon, gave her another antidote, and on her recovering she was given into the custody of French, 443 K, to whom she said she knew she had taken poison enough to destroy life, and that she was sorry it had not done so, but she obstinately refused to give any reason for her conduct. Mr. Cooke asked the prisoner's mother if she could assign any cause for it, and she said she could not. Mr. Cooke then asked the girl what reason she had to give for the act, and the prisoner, in a loud, clear voice, said, "None at all, sir." Mr. Cooke ordered her to be remanded for a week.

THAMES.

A "GENTLEMAN" IN TROUBLE.—Henry Morrison, a master tailor, of King David-lane, Shadwell, who is known to be a very wealthy man, and has been the father of a large family, was brought before Mr. Partridge, charged with being drunk and disorderly, and grossly insulting two respectable women, named Elizabeth Kelly and Elizabeth Bailey, of Sutton-street, Commercial-road. The females, both advanced in years, and having the appearance of well-conducted matrons, went into the Crooked Billet public-house, at the corner of King David-lane, to obtain their supper beer, and Mrs. Kelly seeing the prisoner there, and having known him twenty-five or twenty-six years, saluted him with a "Good evening, Mr. Morrison." She left with her friend, and the prisoner followed them out and abused them in a most foul manner. He held up a shilling, and made an improper overture to them and launched out into a volley of fearful epithets and obscenities. The women said he was a beast and ought to be ashamed of himself. He continued his offensive conduct until a police-constable made his appearance, and he was taken into custody. The constable partially confirmed Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Bailey, and said Mr. Morrison called them bad names, and repeated it in the station-house. Mr. Morrison also said he cared nothing about fines, that he had been fined before, and had the money, and could pay £40 or £50. It was long since he heard such disgusting language as that which fell from the prisoner's lips. The prisoner, who conducted himself very irregularly in the dock, and often turned his back to the magistrate, said the women were persons of bad character, and wanted him to "lush them," and on his refusal demanded money. Mr. Partridge having satisfied himself there was not a word of truth in the prisoner's statement said the prisoner's conduct was that of a blackguard and a ruffian, and most annoying and most disgusting to two respectable women. He sentenced the prisoner to seven days' imprisonment and hard labour. The prisoner: I am a gentleman, sir; look at my years. Inflict a fine. Mr. Partridge: I will do nothing of the kind. To prison you go. The prisoner threw himself on his knees and implored of the magistrate not to disgrace him by sending him to a goal. Mr. Partridge: Remove him, gaoler. The prisoner was dragged to the cell by force, raving and beseeching the magistrate to fine him.

CARELESS DRIVING.—Phillip Hayward, horse-keeper at the King's Arms Tavern and livery stables in the Commercial-road East, was brought before Mr. Paget on a charge of furious driving and damaging property belonging to Mr. John Morice Cronmire, a tradesman, of 10, Grosvenor-street, Stepney, who was driving a horse and gig down the Commercial-road towards his own home, and Mr. John Barne, coffee-roaster, of 13, Umlerstone-street, Commercial-road, St. George's-in-the-East, both of whom he overturned. Richard Besson, police-constable, No. 89 K, said the prisoner had been driving heavily, and scarcely knew what he was about. The people said he was going at the rate of fifteen or sixteen miles an hour. Mr. William Uffindell, the landlord of the King's Arms, said the prisoner was in his service, and he very much regretted that he should have been driving a horse and trap and causing injury as he had done. The prisoner had no right to take out the trap. Mr. Paget said there was gross carelessness, to say the least, on the part of the prisoner, and, addressing Mr. Uffindell, said he was answerable for the acts of his servant, and he (Mr. Paget) would postpone the determination of the case, and give Mr. Uffindell an opportunity of arranging the case out of court. He did not think he should do wrong in giving the people an opportunity of coming to an arrangement, and they might do it immediately if they pleased. All the parties retired, and it was afterwards stated that Mr. Uffindell, who is a tradesman of high respectability, had compensated Mr. Cronmire and Mr. Barne. The prisoner was then discharged.

SOUTHWARK.

RAILWAY PICKPOCKET.—Edward Dunn, alias Mahony, well dressed, was charged with attempting to pick the pocket of Eliza Grant, on the platform of the Waterloo Railway Terminus. The prosecutrix said she resided at Bishop's Stortford, and on Saturday afternoon came up by South-Western Railway from a visit to a friend with her husband for the purpose of proceeding home. While waiting on the platform for their luggage the prisoner pushed against her several times. At last he stood on her right side very close to her, and she felt something touch her dress. She naturally put her hand down and caught hold of the prisoner's hand in her pocket. He begged of her to let him go, but she detained him, and called out "Police," when one of the company's officers came up and he was secured. Mr. Baker, the platform inspector, said he saw the prosecutrix holding the prisoner's hand in her pocket. He sent for a constable and gave him into custody. The prisoner said it was a mistake. Police-constable 94 L said he took the prisoner into custody on the platform at the Waterloo Station. He begged the lady's pardon, and said that his hand got into her pocket by accident. Sergeant Dunaway, H division, stepped forward and said he had known the prisoner as a thief from his childhood. He knew of one conviction for felony at the North-London Railway, and if a remand was granted he had no doubt several other convictions would be proved against him. The prisoner goes about with a well-dressed woman and a horse and trap, and commits depredations on tradesmen in all parts of London. The magistrate committed him for trial.

LAMBETH.

BURGLARY AT LAMBETH PALACE.—Charles Pearson, who has been in custody on a charge of burglary and robbery at Lambeth Palace, the town residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, was again placed at the bar for final examination. It will be recollected that on the morning of Monday week, at three o'clock, the prisoner was found in the drawing-room of Lambeth Palace with a black portmanteau in his hand, containing various articles of property, which he had taken from the tables and other places. He did not offer the slightest resistance to his being taken by the watchman belonging to the Palace, who found him there. At first it was believed that the prisoner must have had some confederate, as it seemed most improbable that a stranger, as he appeared, could have passed through the intricacies of the building, and got to a place from which there is the most easy access to the interior of the Palace. The prisoner when apprehended, when the charge was taken, and still declares that there was no person in his company, nor did any one know of his intention. Inspector Edmunds, the officer in the case, said the prisoner had been seen by the detective officers belonging to the different divisions of police, and had not been recognised by any of them. As he had carefully avoided giving any account of himself, he had not been able to learn anything about him. The prisoner having declined to make any statement, Mr. Elliott committed him for trial.

WANDSWORTH.

IMPUDENT CASE OF POCKET-PICKING.—William Stone was finally examined on a charge of pocket-picking. The prisoner was first taken into custody for stealing a bowl containing money from a butcher's shop. He was then dressed like an engine-driver, and had his face and hands covered with black dirt, as if he had been at work. Subsequently he was identified on another charge. From the evidence adduced, it appeared that on the evening of the 6th ult. the prisoner, who was then respectably dressed, entered the shop of Mr. Dean, a stationer, in Surrey-place, Vauxhall. He asked for a valentine in a particular part of the window, and, for the purpose of reaching it, Mrs. Dean had to go round the counter where he was standing and stand on a chair. The prisoner stood by her side, and while she was reaching in the window for it, another young man outside pointed first to one valentine and then to another. At last she took out a valentine, and the young man outside entered and inquired how much it was. When she got down the prisoner had left the shop. She then found that her purse, containing about £1 7s. 6d., had been stolen from her pocket. The second man denied that the prisoner was connected with him, but offered to assist in giving him into custody. He went away, and, like the prisoner, never returned. It was proved that the prisoner had already been imprisoned for twelve months for felony. The prisoner said he was not the man who stole the purse. Mr. Dayman committed him for trial.

GREENWICH.

DETECTION OF A BURGLAR BY MEANS OF A BUTTON.—Thomas Alcock, a youth seventeen years of age, and residing at 13, Bitter-street, Greenwich, was brought up on remand, charged on suspicion of breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Mr. Ablin, of 1, Blackheath-hill, Lewisham, and stealing articles of small value. From the evidence taken, it appeared that a few nights since the house of the prosecutrix was forcibly entered by cutting away a portion of the window shutters, and cupboards and drawers in the lower part were forced open and rummaged. The only things stolen were two silver articles, the supposition being that the burglar or burglars must have been disturbed in their operations. In making an escape it became necessary to climb a garden-wall, and in doing this a button had become broken off the coat, the button was of peculiar pattern, and a day or two afterwards Sergeant Mennery, 10 B, upon information received, went to the residence of the prisoner, and found that the coat he was wearing was minus a button of the same pattern as that found, and that the broken off centre was still being worn by him. The sergeant then took the prisoner into custody, on suspicion of committing the burglary, to which he subsequently confessed, giving information which has led to the recovery of the stolen property from a silver-smith at Poplar, to whom it had been sold. The prisoner, who said he was a native of Gravesend, but that he had recently arrived from the Staffordshire potteries, at Burslem, was committed for trial, but ordered to be again brought up for completion of the depositions.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

THIS day, Saturday, March 17th, being the anniversary of the day whereon St. Patrick died, it is commemorated as a high festival in the Catholic Church; and it is celebrated to his honour in that country, with every demonstration of affection for his memory as the apostle and patron saint of Ireland, that an enthusiastic people can possibly express. From the highest to the lowest, all hearts seem inspired by the saint's benevolence. At day-break flags fly on the steeples, and the bells ring out incessant peals till midnight. The rich bestow their benevolence on the poor, and the poor bestow their blessings on the rich, and on each other, and on the blessed St. Patrick. The "green immortal" shamrock is in every hat. Sports of manly exercise exhibit the capabilities of the celebrated "shillelah," and before night many a head gives token of the application of its wonderful powers, by a muscled hand.

Our illustrations present a feature which, in past times, was of too common an occurrence on St. Patrick's Day. Now, as a general rule, these brutal exhibitions are dying out, though by Monday next we shall doubtless hear of many terrific "shillies" even among the Irish labourers of London. Of course all must drink to St. Patrick; and here is a verse which is generally sung, with



AN IRISH FACTION FIGHT.—THE FATAL "SCRIMMAGE."



THE PROCESSION BEARING HOME THE BODY OF THE "MURDERED."

drinking accompaniments, until Pat either becomes quarrelsome or falls beneath the table:—

Saint Patrick's the holy and tutelar man;
His beard down his bosom like Aaron's ran;
Some from Scotland, from Wales, will declare that he came,
But I care not from whence now he's risen to fame:—
The pride of the world and his enemies scorning,
I will drink to St. Patrick, to-day, in the morning!

POPULATION OF OUR CHIEF TOWNS.—The Registrar-General makes the following estimate of the population of thirteen of our great towns in the middle of the year 1866:—London, 3,067,536; Liverpool, 484,837; Manchester, 358,855; Galford, 112,904; Birmingham, 335,798; Leeds, 228,187; Sheffield, 218,257; Bristol, 163,680; Newcastle-on-Tyne, 132,277; Hull, 105,233. The estimate for Edinburgh is 175,128; for Glasgow, 432,265; for Dublin, the city and some suburbs, 318,487.



THE WIDOW BEGGING ALMS AT THE WAYSIDE TO BURY HER HUSBAND.



A PERSIAN HAWKING PARTY.

HAWKING IN PERSIA.

A TRAVELLER in Persia gives the following description of hawking in that country, as pictured in our engraving above:—

"The Vall, or Under-Governor of Kurdistan, having invited me to a grand falcon hunt in the plain of Neramine, I hastened to accept the invitation. We set out from Teheran. Two men on horseback headed the march. One of them carried on his saddle-bow a little drum intended to summon, in case of need, the hunters and the dogs. Behind the two horsemen advanced the Vall, accompanied by his guests—a Russian physician, an English physician, and myself. Then came five couch-tobis or falconers; each of them held in his hand a falcon; the hand was armed with a leathern gantlet. From their saddle hung the perch of the falcon and the tuft of feathers, which the falconers shake in the air to recall the falcon. The birds had been from the night before deprived of food, and hooded. Five *tufekdars*, leading each a couple of greyhounds fastened to a long leash, and carrying, besides a musket, everything necessary to a huntsman, powder, ball, lead, and so on, followed. Near them was a *kaliandar*, with provisions of water and fire for the smokers; pasteboard cylinders containing the pipes and their accessories; bags stuffed with tobacco, a chafin-dish, sus-

pending to chains, and in which the movement of the horse keeps the fire from being extinguished. The *kaliandar's* horse is taught to amble, to permit him who mounts it to clean, fill, light, and carry to his master the pipe, so ingeniously troublesome, which is a Persian's constant companion. Then came an *Abdar*, placed on the carpet which was to serve as seat, table, and tablecloth! Large bags, containing the different utensils necessary to the preparation and service of a repast, even the spit on which a whole sheep is roasted, surrounded him on every side. He had besides, on his back, wrapped in leather, a large tray for the coffee, an immense parasol a large cup to draw water; and at his girdle, which was adorned with spoons, hung a dozen little bags filled with spices. Finally, a long file of mules followed, laden with provisions for many days, but which were to be taken direct to the place where we had to pass the night without following the hunt.

"The first day we traversed Neramine to enter on a plain, sandy and uncultivated. Here there was nothing interesting. Next morning the hunt commenced. A bonbara, a species of bustard, was our first victim. After having taken off from the falcon, which he had in his hand, the hood which had been on from the night before, one of the falconers gave the falcon to his master, who held it on his gloved hand by means of a leathern string fixed to one of

the feet of the bird. The hungry falcon, having eaten nothing for two days, perceives his prey long before his master. His glance becomes fixed, his neck agitated. When the game is seen the falcon is let loose. He shoots like an arrow in a horizontal direction, then rises not less rapidly to fall on his victim, which he rarely misses. If he does not kill it by a single blow, he stupefies it; and, whatever may be the resistance which it may oppose, he never relaxes his hold. Before it is quite dead, he tears off its feathers, and devours it with such voracity while beating his wings that if the hunters do not hasten forward they lose both the game and the falcon, which, once gorged, refuses to hunt. It is also sometimes difficult to take the falcon again. The falconer uses, first of all, the precaution to offer the falcon something to eat; then draws him towards him with a leathern thong. As to the rest, every falconer easily and at once recognises his falcon—he even grows strongly attached to him. A falconer takes great care of the bird which is confided to him; he is proud of it. Also, he delights in adorning it; he hangs on its neck amulets of mother-of-pearl; he fixes little bells to its feet; on the road he addresses flattering compliments to it; finally, as soon as the chase is finished he moistens its beak, strokes its wing and its tail while congratulating it on its success.

Literature.

LOVE IN THE BREAKERS.

AN AMERICAN STORY.

I DO not like fashionable watering places, either on the seaboard or inland. Yet fate or my restless, wandering spirit has more than once led me in "the season" to Saratoga, Newport, Cape May, and the now desolate and deserted yet once famous "White Sulphurs" of Virginia. Those who know me—and few, very few, are they who know me as I am—know well that I am happiest when, shut out from the world, its frivolities, its dissolutions, and its hypocrisies, I wander in the wilderness of my own mountain home, watching the wild deer in its gambols, the trout sporting in the crystal waters, or the eagle piercing the clouds far, far above the lofty mountain-tops.

But to my story.

It was many summers ago when "the spirit moved me" to make a flying trip to Cape May. It was in the height of the season when I reached the Ospe, going by steamer from Philadelphia. Every hotel was crowded; the company was as various as companies at watering-places generally are—bellees looking for mates, beaux on the same scent, any quantity of fortune-hunters, and a few, a very few, really sensible men and women in the vast crowd. The fair sex was not represented, as I thought, by any "killing beauties." I wandered in at three or four of the evening dances, and made up my mind that I had seen as much beauty at a Mexican fandango, more in a dance on the green of an Andalusian village, and not less at a backwoods dance, where one fiddler formed the band, and a Virginia reel the "dancing-card."

I saw nothing, in fact, to drive away my natural melancholy, and had made up my mind to take one good swim in the surf of the Old Atlantic, and then on the next day to start once more for my wildwood home among the glorious old Adirondacks.

So I took my bathing-suit from my trunk, and when the sun began to droop towards the pines in the west, I sauntered down to the beach, where hundreds were already sporting in the surf—the shrill laughter and pretty screams of the fair ones making a fine contrast with the heavy roar of the surf.

For a few minutes, I hesitated to enter the water, being more pleasantly engaged in soaking the scene before me. Darley never had a finer chance for sketching than he would have had there. A Hogarth would only have been too happy for the caricature opportunities afforded him. For instance: a fat, beef-eating citizen, carrying, at least, two hundredweight of mortality in his own person, went into the water, with a wife on his arm whose lean and lank figure, taller than his own, was too thin to cast a shadow on the white sand of the shelly beach. And, *vice versa*, a very fat lady and a man as lean as Romeo's apothecary would be seen—the one waddling, duck-fashion, into the water, the other "tetering" towards it like a half-starved sandpiper.

"Not a handsome woman in the water," I muttered, as I gazed over and among the crowd.

But at that moment, as if to rebuke me for my lack of gallantry, a vision passed me—she seemed too beautiful to be anything but a

vision—which made my spirit retract the thought in an instant; for the lady was beautiful—gloriously beautiful. One glance of her eyes—great, black, all-bewildering eyes—fell upon me as she passed, and I felt that I blushed from my head to my feet. She glided—she did not seem to walk—so close by me that her snow-white bathing-robe actually touched me, and the contact threw an electric glow through me in an instant. Tall, her figure could, even in that ungainly garb, be seen to be perfect—her complexion almost too fair for the waves of jetty hair which hung about her white brow and neck; and, to crown all, a look of melancholy upon her perfect features, that made my but too susceptible heart ache to be her sympathetic confidant, her comforter, if only such a thing could be.

With bitterness in my heart against the happy man who could be privileged to wait upon such an angel, I turned to see what heaven was attending the goddess of my heart's sudden adoration.

There was no masculine present—no one so near as myself. She entered the water alone—not timidly or with a shrinking step, but like a calmly proud Diana, when no prying Aetoon was near.

Involuntarily I followed, though at a respectful distance. I watched her every motion as she advanced farther and farther into the foamy "yeast of waters."

Moving out until more than half of her queenly form was immersed in the briny waves, she stood, and gently bowed her head to the great breakers, as they rolled in, in snowy wreaths, upon her. Oh, how I wished that I was one—just one—of those breakers! Would I not clasp that queenly form in my chaste embrace, and bear it away to some "lonely isle of beauty," to be mine—mine for ever? Yes, I would!

But a hoarse shout from the men, a cry of warning, and a thousand screams from rosy lips turning suddenly white, recalled me from the wild dreams which were taking possession of me. My queenly vision had gone further out than all the rest; so had I, when a roller of at least twice the usual height came tumbling in upon us. In a moment she was hidden from my view; the next second I was under a hundred tons of water, or so it seemed. Half strangled, I buffeted my way to the top of the water, only to find that the "undertow" had swept me outside of the surf, beyond the outermost breaker, and that the tide was bearing me seaward.

I thought not of my own danger. Where was she? At that instant I saw her—a look of despair upon her beautiful face—within a few feet of me, just sinking; for she evidently could not swim, as she made no effort to do so.

Heaven! what strength came to me then! Never did "strong swimmer in his agony" strike out more boldly than did I then and there. In an instant I was by her side, my hand supporting her, and my voice uttering these words: "Lady, do not despair. I will save you or die with you!"

Oh, how her look went through and through me! Words never could so express gratitude. Wave after wave beat over me, but I lifted her bright, beautiful head above them all.

"If your strength will last a few minutes we are saved!" she said, in tones that were melody condensed, rarified, angelically modulated. (Excuse my rhapsodies, I cannot help them.) "For they are launching surf-boats," she added.

I had not thought of that, or cared for it, or looked for it. I only looked in her too beautiful face.

"They will soon be here. Do not let your strength give way," she said again.

How I wished they'd stak, capsize, do anything but come there to share with me the felicity of saving her.

But they came. A great, lobster-fisted hand was stretched out, and it rudely grasped her round, peerless arm, and she was lifted into a boat. I would have sunk myself—for with her went all my strength—had not another great pair of lobster-looking hands lifted me also from the water, and tossed me, as carelessly as if I had been a half-drowned dog, into the bottom of the boat.

I believe I was so weak as to faint; for I knew nothing more until I found myself on a bench on the beach, surrounded by hundreds of men and women, who were drowning the noise of the surf by their cheers. One man was pouring brandy down my throat, to revive me. I pushed his hand away, and looked around for her.

There she stood, pale, but oh! so beautiful yet, and looking gratitude enough out of those great black eyes to have paid for death a hundred times over.

"Do come up to the Ocean House, Room and Parlor No 16," she said, in her musical voice, "just as soon as you are able. I cannot thank you enough for saving my life; but my dear husband, who is confined to his room with an attack of the gout, will do all that man can do to prove his gratitude to the preserver of his wife's life!"

"O my countrymen, what a fall was there!" Her husband—a man with the gout linked to such a living angel! I don't know what I said or did just then. I believe I asked somebody to blow my brains out. They took me up to my room. I did not leave it that night. The next day I did leave it, and left Cape May, also, for ever. I dared not again look upon the angelic wife of the man who had the gout. But I started off at once for my bachelor-home in the wild Adirondacks; for only in their deep solitudes could I find the peace which had been so fearfully disturbed by "love in the breakers."

E. W.

BRIDGET'S GHOST.

THE reader may ask in what particular Bridget's ghost differed from any other ghost.

I will unfold.

Some years ago I visited my friend Bob Squires. As Squires, senior, and his better-half were from home, Bob insisted that I should remain over night; which I did.

The household on this occasion consisted of Lucy Squires (only "sweet sixteen"), Bob Bridget, the servant, who had just arrived from Ould Ireland, and had been engaged the day previous—and myself. Perhaps I should include a large yellow dog, that was making "both ends meet," near the fire.

"When the cat's away, the mice will play," you know; and when the old folks are away, the young folks will play; which, perhaps, you know also.

In the evening of which I write, about three hours and fifty-eight minutes after the god of day had popped behind the western hills, the party alluded to were sitting in front of one of those cheerful, old-fashioned open fireplaces that are almost obsolete now, listening to Bridget's narration of her voyage to Liverpool, which was told in that rich brogue that—that—well, that I could scarcely understand.

And from that night to this, the manner in which my chair would hie up to Lucy's has remained an unfathomable mystery to me. Presently, Bob asked Bridget if she had ever seen a ghost. "A ghost? Is it a spook ye mean?" Bob explained; and then he told a ghost-story; then I told a ghost-story; then we told all the ghost-stories we ever read or heard of, and some that we had never heard or read of. So as of them were thrilling, would make the flesh creep, crawl, quiver, or move in some other manner. Although we succeeded in frightening Lucy several inches out of her boots, yet Bridget didn't seem to "see the point"—said she wasn't afraid of "spooks."

After a while, Bob left the room, and called me after him. Said if there was any fear in Bridget he would bring it out. "We will build a ghost up in the spare room," said Bob, "and then we will get Biddy to send Biddy up for something, you know. A capital idea—eh?"

I confess that I couldn't distinguish anything brilliant in the idea, but if it succeeded in frightening the girl, that was sufficient. We apprised Lucy of our intentions; but she objected to remaining down stairs with Bridget, our stories having played upon her fears.

Bob said he'd stay down stairs, and Lucy could show me up into the spare-room, and assist me in erecting the ghost.

"And make it terrible," Bob added.

Of course, this arrangement pleased me hugely; although I am willing to swear or affirm that Bob and I could have accomplished the work in five minutes of the time; not that Lucy was slow, but because I couldn't do any ghost-building for gazing at my fair accomplice, and—but that is neither here, nor there, or any other place.

At last, with the aid of sheets, nightgowns, hoops, things, and some other female habiliments of which I could never remember the names, and wouldn't if I could, the ghost was completed. And a "hunky" ghost it was, too—calculated to make the hair stand erect on the pale of a bald-headed man! I never saw a ghost have no desire to; but I know, am positive, that our ghost looked just like ghosts do look! It was so true to life (or death), that we walked away from it backward, fearing it would follow us, perhaps place its cold clammy hands on our faces.

Well, we had not been down stairs long before Bridget was sent up to the spare room.

"Shure," said Bridget, picking up a piece of wood that lay on the hearth, "I'll take this bit iv a stick wid me to beat wiv them spooks Master Bob was speekin' ov, should I meet wid wiv."

Saying which, she proceeded up-stairs. Bob, Lucy, and I secretly stole up after her. She had not entered the room long before we heard, "Arrah, ye dirty spook, is it here ye are?"

We peered into the room through a small aperture of the door, and saw Biddy standing, with uplifted stick, in a belligerent attitude before our impromptu ghost.

"Take that! an' that! ye dirty blaggard!"

And the way she brought her "bit iv a stick" down on the apparition was a caution to the crinoline, nightgown, and other things of which it was composed.

"How d'ye like that?" she asked, giving it a fearful whack and leaving it.

We were about retracing our steps, when we heard Bridget exclaim, "Ooh, murder! Another spook!"

Another ghost! This was more than we had bargained for; and I began to feel curious.

"An' what an ogly spook! Shure, it must be the devil's own sister!"

I peeped into the room, observed Biddy gazing into a large mirror, and immediately understood the nature of the "other ghost." I dashed into the chamber to arrest her outstretched arm, but was too late. With her "bit iv a stick" she made a blow at her image in the glass, and smashed a £10 mirror!

"Shure, Master Bob," she said, turning to that personage, "I've broken the windy to smithereens! but it's myself that's damaged the mug ov the thief ov the world!"

Biddy took it for granted that an "ogly spook" was gazing through the window at her, and pitched in accordingly.

Bob and I didn't sleep much that night. It took us till daylight to concoct a story to tell the old folks the manner in which the mirror was broken. And another thing, I was anxious to leave that neighbourhood before the return of Bob's parents.

The next time I visited Bob, Mrs. Squires said, "That cat"—(which I was stroking)—"that cat, some time ago, broke our large mirror up-stairs."

But, between you and I, I don't believe the cat did break it; it looked entirely innocent of the act.

From some allusions thrown out above, the inquisitive reader may wish to know what became of Lucy—if she and I eventually got —. Well, for the benefit of such, I will state, that some years after the foregoing incidents, Lucy and your obedient servant were —not married!

THE PRACTICAL GARDENER.

GARDENING OPERATIONS FOR THE WEEK.

FLOWER GARDEN.—Continue putting in cuttings of bedding-out plants. Give ariolous plenty of air in mild weather, by drawing the lights quite off the frames. Shift on the young stock of calceolarias, by placing them low in the pots, to encourage them to throw out young roots from the lower part of the stem, and when they have made fresh growth top them, to make them dwarf and bushy. Propagate roses by cuttings, layers, and grafts; prune the old varieties, by cutting away all the old wood, leaving the young shoots at regular distances. Plant *Stigmella pavonia*, as it makes a splendid bed, and will grow in common soil. Plant polyanthes in beds and borders. Get in well-struck cuttings of fuschias, and thin the stems of those that have been left in the open ground during the winter.

KITCHEN GARDEN.—Should the frosts have delayed any of the work out for last week, hurry it on with all speed on the first opportunity. For a good stock of broccoli, sow Early Pezance and Snow's Winter White for cutting in January and February; and purple Sprouting and Knight's Protecting for March and April. Plant out the early sowings of cauliflowers as soon as they are of sufficient size. Sow broad beans, peas, onions, carrots, radishes, lettuce, cress, spinach, &c. Continue to get in main crop of potatoes.

FRUIT GARDEN.—After the late severe weather, look well after pruning and fresh nailing; also go over grafts and add additional clay where cracks appear, and remove all shoots that appear below the graft. See that stakes are again well secured.

IMPORTANT TO MOTHERS!—Are you disturbed at night and broken of rest by a sick child, suffering and crying with the excruciating pain of cutting teeth?—If so, go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup." It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately; this preparation, which has been in use in America over thirty years, and very highly recommended by medical men, is now sold in this country, with full directions on the bottle. It is pleasant to take and safe in all cases; it soothes the child, and gives it rest; softens the gums, and allays all pain, relieves wind in the stomach, and regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery or diarrhoea, whether it arises from teething or other causes. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and see that "Carr's and Perkins, New York and London," is on the outside wrapper. Price 1s. 1d. per bottle. Sold by chemists and medicine dealers everywhere. Principal office, 305, High Holborn, London.—[Advertisement.]

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

THE REFORM BILL.

THOSE of the peers who were on Monday night unable to obtain admission into the Commons chamber occupied themselves, during the time that the Reform Bill was being developed in the other house, with a disquisition on turret ships. It was not in the least surprising, when admission was obtained into the Commons, to find that prayers had been so fully attended that every unprivileged seat was marked with a card. In a few minutes after four o'clock the stranger element in all its phases was present, every gallery being full, while the seats appropriated to members of the upper house were crowded to inconvenience. Conspicuous were Earl Russell, in a snug corner on the right hand below the bar, flanked by the Duke of Cambridge. On the opposite side was Earl Grey, and in the gallery above were the Duke of Argyll and Earl Granville. The places of members were filled and half-filled alternately, and little notice was bestowed on the struggles of a private Bill to escape strangling on the second reading. Watchful eyes, at a later hour than usual, detected Mr. Gladstone gliding in behind the Speaker's chair—which was occupied by Mr. Dodson. The great orator was greeted by a cheer, partial at first, but afterwards more general, and the growing enthusiasm took a form which could only be expected in a new house, and was not vocal. The effort it cost gentlemen who had questions to put, to assume an air of importance in the face of a decidedly unsympathising audience was palpable, and it was evidently a relief to pent-up expectation when they were disposed of, and the formalities were despatched which preceded the advent of the great actor of the evening in a new part. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, at a little after five, introduced the Reform Bill. He commenced by touching briefly on the previous history of the question from the time of Mr. Locke King's £10 county franchise in 1831, with the object of showing that the responsibility of dealing with it rested, not with the Government, but with all parties in the House of Commons. He stated that this was the first in domestic question which had been discussed in the first Cabinet after Lord Palmerston's death, and he described the measures which had been taken to procure information as to the state of the constituencies. He attributed the delay which had taken place in bringing forward the Bill, not to vacillation on the part of the Government, as had been imputed to them, but to the time necessary for obtaining the returns in the most accurate and complete form, and he expressed a strong conviction that when the house had examined the statistics laid before them they would be of opinion that the time had been very valuably employed. He announced that the Government, though thoroughly sensible of the importance of a general review of the electoral system, in which he included, besides the reduction of the franchise, a redistribution of seats and some attempt to deal with corrupt practices at elections, had determined at the present moment to deal only with the most pressing part of the question—the extension of the franchise; and he justified this decision by referring to the period of the session, which would make it impossible, even with the most rapid progress, to send the Bill to the House of Lords before the middle of July. He mentioned that the discussions out of which the first Reform Bill issued occupied 100 nights, and contended that the complete treatment of this complex question was beyond the handling of one session. He proceeded at once to unfold the Government plan, beginning with the county franchise, in which it was proposed to reduce the £50 to a £14 occupation of a house, with or without land. This, he calculated, would add 171,000 persons—almost entirely of the middle classes—to the present constituency. He proposed also to put the possessors of copyhold and leasehold within parliamentary boroughs in the same position as freeholders. He discussed next the question of "fancy," or, as he termed them, "special franchises," taking generally an unfavourable view of them, but making an exception of the savings banks franchise, and intimating that the Bill would give a vote for the place where he resided to every depositor of £50 of two years' standing, subject to the obligation of making an annual claim. He showed that this would reach some men who were not got at by the tenure and occupation franchise, though he anticipated that the addition to the constituency would not be large, and would be found chiefly in the county constituencies. Passing to the borough constituencies, he divided the persons to be dealt with under four heads—first, those who inhabit separate houses and pay their own rates; and secondly, those who inhabit their own houses and are separately rated, but do not pay their own rates, commonly called compound-householders; thirdly, the inhabitants of portions of houses, who do not pay rates separately; and fourthly, lodgers proper. He entered into the statistics of the borough constituencies, showing that while the population of the boroughs had increased 79 per cent, the number of voters had only increased 82 per cent since 1832, and he stated that of the 489,000 voters in the towns, 128,000, or 26 per cent, belonged to the working classes. He acknowledged that this result of the statistics had somewhat surprised him; but in reply to those who were disposed to foment themselves upon it, he demonstrated by elaborate statistics that the working-class element was very unequally distributed, the proportion in 60 boroughs being one-third, and in 30 others not more than one-tenth, and that the proportion had been diminishing since 1832, when the working-class voters were 31 per cent of the whole body. Adverting for a moment to the operation of the working-class element on the balance of parties, he drew attention, for the consolation of the Opposition, to the significant fact that the metropolitan boroughs, in which there was the smallest proportion of working men, had been most consistent in returning members opposed to Conservative views. The extensions in the borough franchise contemplated in the Bill affected two classes—those who lived in houses above £10, and those who lived in houses below that value. With regard to the first, he stated that it was intended to abolish the ratepaying clause, which would add 25,000 persons to the register, and it was proposed to require that the name of the compound-householder, whose rates were paid by the landlord, should be placed on the ratebook, whence it would pass by a spontaneous process to the register, and in this manner he calculated 35,000 new voters would be created. He proposed to deal with persons occupying portions of a house (flats, for instance) and lodgers proper in the same manner—viz, to allow them to be placed on the register if they could show by an annual claim that the premises which they occupied were of the annual value of £10. He professed himself unable to give any information as to the numbers which this proposition would add to the constituent body, but conjectured that they would be almost entirely of the middle class. He next discussed the respective advantages of rental and rating as bases of the franchise, arriving at the conclusion that the best basis was the "clear annual value," and he stated that the Bill proposed to ascertain this from the "gross estimated rental" column of the rate book. He showed that a £1 franchise would add 242,000 of the working classes to the town constituencies, which, added to their present number, 482,000, would give them a clear majority in the towns, and that he believed parliament would neither be willing nor was called upon to do so. He then announced that the Government had decided to propose a £7 rental suffrage, which, making all the deductions requisite, would enfranchise 114,000 working men, and showed that, whereas a £10 franchise could not easily be attained by a working man who had not £2 weekly wages, the £7 franchise could be reached with 26s. weekly wages. He recapitulated some of the principal features of the measure, summing up the general result as an addition of 400,000 voters to the constituent body, of whom 200,000 belonged to the working classes; and

this, he said, would amount to a representation of somewhere about two in five of the working classes. He mentioned that the necessity of residence would be abolished, and that dockyard labourers would be deprived of their votes, and concluded with an eloquent appeal to the house to make a timely concession to the just claims of the working classes. The proposition was most happily conceived, and superbly executed. It brought triumphantly to a close an address occupying nearly two hours and a half, which was as business-like as a budget, and yet at times rose to the dignity of an oration. Any idea of a rapid cut-and-thrust debate ensuing at once was put an end to by a general rush to the door and the rising of Mr. Marsh in a state of comic distress to protest against this long stride towards universal suffrage. Then came a flow of small talk, from which little of real feeling about the Bill could be gathered; but this was all changed when Mr. Laing rose and began one of those damaging, incisive, and powerful speeches for which he is famous, and passed it in an apparently organised opposition to the measure. After him Mr. Baines rose, but Captain Grosvenor, the new member for Westminster, also claimed a hearing, and then it was found that the Opposition, which hitherto had been quiet and doubtful whether to come out strong, had caught the cue from Mr. Laing, and had made up their minds what to do; for they championed Captain Grosvenor and objected to Mr. Baines with such noisy determination, that Mr. Disraeli was obliged to rise and give them an implied reproof by vindicating the right of Mr. Deputy-Speaker Dodson to select his man. This proved to be Mr. Baines, and he was almost passionate in his approval of the Bill. Next Captain Grosvenor succeeded in getting in a speech, which was a series of would-be epigrams, and so prepared as to be adapted for insertion into any part of the debate; so, after all, he lost nothing by being delayed for a while, particularly as the house had come back by this time. If Mr. Laing was quietly dangerous, Mr. Horsman indulged in an open—may it be said, an abusive?—assault against the measure, mingled here and there with caustic humour, and was positively pelted by the Conservatives. A mischievous desire to stir up strife between Mr. Bright, who sat with a forced smile on his face, and the Ministry, was next openly manifested by Mr. Horsman. A critical and, truth to say, rather coarse analysis of the opinions and conduct of Mr. Gladstone followed, and, for obvious reasons, was by no means so well received as the previous flights. But he spoke so means so well received as the previous flights. But he spoke so long, and there seemed to creep over the house a notion that he would keep up the discussion till so late that an adjournment would be inevitable; and so it proved, for a motion to that effect came from Mr. Lowe, who is to follow on the same side, the Opposition proper still making no sign. The adjournment accordingly took place.

BURNING OF THE BRITISH SHIP ABEONA BY THE CHINESE.

THE Board of Trade have received the subjoined from the British consul at Tamsui, island of Formosa, taken by him on oath from Captain Murray, late master of the ship Abeona, of Liverpool, from Hong-Kong to Chefoo, which was attacked, plundered, and burnt off that island:—

"The Abeona was making for Chefoo, with a cargo of 1,222 bags of sugar, 300 tuns of oil, and boxes of provisions. On the 12th of October the ship, when off the island of Formosa, was carried ashore. Soon afterwards the natives began to come down to the ship, and we were compelled to arm ourselves to keep them from boarding us. When the water rose the sea rose also, preventing us from getting a boat out. The ship bumped awfully, but did not flit. Next day at low water the ship was surrounded by natives, trying to board us; we were compelled to fire into them, killing two, and wounding several; when the tide commenced to make, sent the mate on shore to get assistance from the authorities and to deliver a letter to the English consul at Tamsui, requesting assistance as I could not defend myself. Morning of the 15th, mate returned with a mandarin and a few soldiers to assist us. The crowd of natives increasing, I was compelled to keep the crew under arms night and day, especially at low water, as they were stripping the copper and digging holes in the ship's bottom; 16 h, still employed trying to keep the natives off—the ship's ammunition very low, mandarin promising to supply us with more, but did not fulfil his promise; 17th, morning moderate, surrounded by boats which the mandarin said were cargo boats, but they were all armed; the mandarin offered me, if I would make an agreement to pay him half the value of the cargo he would take it on shore; if not he would take his soldiers away. I was compelled to accept this agreement, but it was never fulfilled. The mandarin got about 100 bags of sugar on deck. The mandarin allowed a large number of men to come on deck on the plea of being friends. About three p.m. the natives fired into us from the sand, and cleared all the soldiers from the rails. The mandarin then proposed leaving and taking his soldiers with him. After much persuasion I got him to stay till dark, and he promised to escort us safely on shore. I was compelled to accept this proposition as our ammunition was expended, and many boats were cruising about. As soon as it commenced to get dark the mandarin's men and the men on deck began to plunder the ship. They compelled us to leave the ship. It appeared it was agreed amongst them to take the ship that night, as there was assistance expected next morning. We left the vessel about seven p.m., under the escort of one of the mandarin's men, in a sampan, they filling the sampan with cargo after they got us into her. On the way ashore they plundered us of all we had except what we stood in. Next morning at daylight the ship was in flames. We were taken under the protection of the mandarins, and detained ten days, they trying to recover the cargo, and during that time they beheaded three men and hung one of the principal ringleaders. They treated us very kindly, and finally provided us with 200 dollars to pay our expenses towards Hong-Kong. It is my opinion that we owe our safety to the frequent correspondence with her Britannic Majesty's vice consul and John Dodd, Esq., of Tamsui. The latter gentleman had taken means to provide us a kind reception in all the places on our way up here. I beg to state that it was reported the gunboat Flamer was expected down, which the mandarin appeared to be very much afraid of. We arrived here (Hong-Kong) on the evening of the 31st of October, and were kindly provided for by the British consul. The burning of the ship was said to have been done by the mandarins, with a view to stop the plundering. I recovered through the mandarin my own chronometer and sextant, all but two tubes, and one change of clothing."

The ship and cargo were both insured.

A CHINESE NOTABLE DECEASED.—Oon Pak, late president of the See Yip Company of San Francisco, died a few days since. He was sixty-nine years of age, and very wealthy. His funeral was a resplendent affair. Long tables were spread in Sacramento street, which were loaded with fruits, cooked food, a goat dressed, with skin and horns on, but the hair removed; hogs and sheep roasted whole and decorated with flowers, feathers, and a hundred nameless and indescribable ornaments, while incense was burned, prayers were recited, and marches played by a band stationed on a verandah overhead, and dirges sung by the mourners.—*New York Daily News.*

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